



General Assembly

Distr.: General
20 July 2015

Original: English

Human Rights Council
Thirtieth session
Agenda item 6
Universal Periodic Review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

United States of America

* The annex to the present report is circulated as received.

GE.15-11926(E)



Please recycle



Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	3
I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process	3
A. Presentation by the State under review	3
B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review	4
II. Conclusions and recommendations	12
Annex	
Composition of the delegation	35

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-second session from 4 to 15 May 2015. The review of the United States of America was held at the 11th meeting, on 11 May 2015. The delegation of the United States was headed by the United States Ambassador to the Human Rights Council, Keith Harper, and the Acting Legal Adviser, Department of State, Mary McLeod. At its 17th meeting, held on 15 May 2015, the Working Group adopted the report on the United States.

2. On 13 January 2015, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of the United States: Botswana, the Netherlands and Saudi Arabia.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of the United States:

- (a) A national report (A/HRC/WG.6/22/USA/1);
- (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) (A/HRC/WG.6/22/USA/2);
- (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR (A/HRC/WG.6/22/USA/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Azerbaijan, Belgium, China, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to the United States through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the Working Group.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The co-head of the United States delegation, Keith Harper, noted the importance of the universal periodic review mechanism and expressed pride in the record of the United States and its acknowledgement of its imperfections. He welcomed civil society's presence and engagement.

6. He highlighted the announcement of support of the United States for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as further explained in its statement of support and its enactment of laws to empower tribal governments to provide for public safety and to protect Native American women against domestic violence and sexual assault.

7. The other co-head of the United States delegation, Mary McLeod, noted that the United States had carefully considered the recommendations accepted from fellow States Members of the United Nations during its first universal periodic review and had taken many steps to implement them.

8. Ms. McLeod provided an outline of the democratic system in the United States, which allows for scrutiny, advocacy and debate to fuel progress and reform. She outlined federal efforts to end violence and discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals, to prosecute crimes motivated by bias, to prohibit discrimination in

federal employment and the military and to support efforts to ban the use of conversion therapy for minors. Progress had also been made at the state level.

9. She noted that, although there were many successes to report, there remained much work to be done, including in the light of the public release of the executive summary of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence report on the former Central Intelligence Agency detention and interrogation programme.

10. She noted that, as President Obama had acknowledged, the United States had crossed a line and not lived up to its own values, and that it had taken responsibility for that. She added that the United States had since taken steps to clarify that the legal prohibition on torture applies everywhere and in all circumstances and to ensure that the United States never resorts to use of those harsh interrogation techniques again.

11. James Cadogan of the United States Department of Justice provided an overview of efforts to combat discrimination in the United States through laws like the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

12. He noted that the recent tragic police-involved shootings or deaths of young African American men had renewed a longstanding and critical debate about the even-handed administration of justice.

13. The Department of Justice has prosecuted more than 400 law enforcement officials for excessive use of force in the past six years and has opened more than 20 investigations into discriminatory policing practices in various cities and states. A presidential task force has also been convened on the issue.

14. Work continues to combat discrimination in other areas, including in protecting an equal right to vote. The Department of Justice has recently brought challenges to racially discriminatory voting laws in North Carolina and Texas.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

15. During the interactive dialogue, 117 delegations made statements. The recommendations made during the dialogue can be found in section II of the present report. All written statements of the delegations, to be checked against delivery on the United Nations Webcast archives,¹ are posted on the extranet of the Human Rights Council, when available.²

16. Kazakhstan made a statement.

17. Kenya was concerned with weak human rights monitoring mechanisms and digital data protection.

18. Latvia noted that the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women had been designated as a priority for ratification.

19. Lebanon commended the commitment of the United States to the principles of human rights established in constitutional law.

20. Libya commended the progress that had been achieved since the first universal periodic review report.

¹ <http://webtv.un.org/meetings-events/human-rights-council/universal-periodic-review/watch/usa-review-22nd-session-of-universal-periodic-review/422910642200>

² <https://extranet.ohchr.org/sites/upr/Sessions/22session/USA/Pages/default.aspx>.

21. Liechtenstein took positive note of the efforts of the United States to protect national security and civil liberties.
22. Lithuania appreciated the consultation process of the Government of the United States with civil society.
23. Luxembourg made a statement.
24. Malaysia noted the findings of the Senate Intelligence Committee report on torture.
25. Mali welcomed the commitment of the United States to the implementation of international instruments obligations.
26. Mauritania encouraged the United States to strengthen its cooperation with the human rights mechanisms.
27. Mauritius commended the United States for its commitment in reviewing domestic laws and institutions.
28. Mexico acknowledged efforts for training of law enforcement officers on the prohibition of discrimination.
29. Montenegro noted the concerns of the Human Rights Committee about racial disparities in the imposition of the death penalty.
30. Morocco noted the efforts of the United States regarding the training of law enforcement officials to avoid racial profiling.
31. Namibia noted that three states had repealed capital punishment laws since the previous review cycle.
32. Nepal noted that the United States had pursued measures to combat racial and religious discrimination and hate crimes.
33. The Netherlands noted that no specific steps had been taken to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women.
34. New Zealand expressed concerns at the lack of full treaty-level protection for a number of vulnerable groups.
35. Nicaragua made a statement.
36. The Niger appreciated the support of the United States to OHCHR activities and its cooperation with human rights mechanisms.
37. Nigeria welcomed initiatives at fostering relations between law enforcement officers and communities.
38. Norway was concerned at the application of the death penalty.
39. Pakistan made a statement.
40. Panama appreciated the cooperation programme of the United States to eradicate all forms of child labour in Panama.
41. Paraguay acknowledged the invitation to the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to visit Guantanamo, expecting that he could fulfil his mandate.
42. Peru highlighted the achievements on education, particularly the initiative entitled "Generation Indigenous".
43. The Philippines appreciated the increasing number of criminal convictions of human traffickers.

44. Poland welcomed efforts of the United States to comply with the recommendations made during the first review cycle.
45. Portugal was concerned at recent cases where executions by lethal injections had inflicted cruel punishment.
46. The Republic of Korea praised efforts to raise public awareness of human rights.
47. The Republic of Moldova welcomed measures aimed at greater protection for juvenile offenders.
48. The Czech Republic appreciated the consultations preceding the national report.
49. The Russian Federation regretted that the United States had paid insufficient attention to the recommendations made during the first review cycle.
50. Rwanda welcomed the increasing number of states that had abolished the death penalty.
51. Senegal noted the support of the United States to African countries affected by Ebola.
52. Serbia praised initiatives to expand access to health care.
53. Sierra Leone was concerned at protracted detentions and racial discrimination.
54. Singapore acknowledged efforts of the United States to comply with the recommendations made during the first review cycle.
55. Slovakia noted a moratorium on the death penalty on an ad hoc basis by the Federal Government.
56. Slovenia noted challenges, particularly non-discrimination, the prohibition of torture and mass surveillance.
57. The United States noted its view that torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment and punishment are absolutely prohibited at all times and in all places under both international law and United States domestic law.
58. President Obama issued an executive order ending the Central Intelligence Agency's detention and interrogation programme and directing humane treatment of individuals detained in armed conflict. The United States has investigated allegations of torture or mistreatment since 11 September 2001.
59. In combating terrorism, the United States remains firmly committed to upholding its international obligations.
60. The United States is party to a number of human rights treaties and continues to explore whether and how to ratify additional treaties, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women.
61. While it is not at this time considering becoming a party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, the United States does engage with States parties on issues of concern, consistent with the requirements of United States law.
62. United States intelligence activities are authorized pursuant to a framework based on the rule of law, whereby statutes and other authorities established through democratic institutions govern its activities. United States intelligence collection programmes and activities are subject to stringent and multilayered oversight mechanisms.
63. Although the United States has federal laws and laws in the majority of states authorizing the death penalty for the most serious crimes that are within constitutional

limits and consistent with its international obligations, defendants eligible for the death penalty receive heightened procedural safeguards over and above those enjoyed by all criminal defendants.

64. The recent trend in the United States is away from the use of capital punishment. No defendant found by a court to have significant intellectual and adaptive disabilities may be subject to capital punishment, either at the state or federal levels.

65. The United States seeks to prevent excessive uses of force and racial profiling in law enforcement by participating in the training of federal, state and local law enforcement officers across the country.

66. In December, the United States announced an updated policy applicable to all law enforcement activity under federal supervision, instructing that officers may not consider race or a number of other factors to any degree when making routine or spontaneous law enforcement decisions, unless those characteristics apply to a suspect's description.

67. The United States makes strong efforts to combat racial discrimination in education, strongly supporting diversity at all levels.

68. The United States seeks to address hate crimes, including through the Shepard-Byrd Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which greatly expanded the Federal Government's ability to prosecute bias-motivated violence.

69. There has been a trend away from corporal punishment in United States schools and parenting programmes, and home visitation providers stress positive discipline with parents, guiding them away from physical or violent punishment.

70. The United States has a strong commitment to preventing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking; assisting those who are survivors; and holding accountable those who commit such crimes. The Violence Against Women Act is designed to increase the availability of services for victims of violence and improve the criminal justice response.

71. South Africa encouraged the United States to implement the recommendations made during the first review cycle.

72. Spain welcomed efforts to close the Guantanamo military prison and welcomed the "Affordable Medical Care" Act.

73. The Sudan urged the Government to eliminate all forms of discrimination in all areas.

74. Sweden made a statement.

75. Switzerland noted the Senate report on methods of interrogation in the context of the fight against terrorism.

76. Thailand expressed concern at racial profiling by local law enforcement and immigration authorities.

77. The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia welcomed initiatives to promote human rights at international forums.

78. Timor-Leste commended the Government for its support for the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

79. Togo welcomed the law on access to health care and efforts to guarantee equal opportunities in education.

80. Trinidad and Tobago noted the need to rid the society of racial discrimination.

81. Tunisia noticed the efforts made in combating racism and hate crimes.
82. Turkey expressed concerns about poor protection services for sexually exploited children.
83. Ukraine noted the commitment to improving implementation of human rights obligations and adherence to the universal periodic review.
84. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland urged closing the Guantanamo Bay detention facility.
85. Uruguay praised efforts to combat discrimination and a decline in the application of the death penalty in states.
86. Brazil referred to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights, immigration and border security and interferences to privacy.
87. Viet Nam highlighted the need to ratify the remaining core international human rights treaties.
88. Albania commended measures to counter intolerance, violence and discrimination.
89. Algeria commended efforts undertaken to eliminate racial discrimination.
90. Angola noted executive actions to improve the regulation of immigration.
91. Argentina expressed concern that the application of the death penalty was characterized by discrimination and arbitrariness.
92. Armenia appreciated the commitment of the United States to prevention of the crime of genocide.
93. Australia welcomed the efforts of the United States to better protect the rights of Native Americans.
94. Austria expressed concern that individuals continued to serve life sentences without parole for crimes committed when they were under 18 years of age.
95. Azerbaijan noted the concerns expressed by treaty bodies about torture and ill-treatment in detention.
96. Bangladesh noted concerns about racial profiling against religious minorities.
97. Belgium noted reports on health hazards for children working in farms.
98. Benin noted the progress made in wages equality.
99. Bosnia and Herzegovina noted steps concerning indigenous peoples and asked for the closure of the Guantanamo facility.
100. Botswana noted violence against women and encouraged addressing racial discrimination.
101. The Bolivian Republic of Venezuela made a statement.
102. Bulgaria noted efforts against racial discrimination.
103. Burkina Faso urged for improvement concerning the rights of women, children and migrants.
104. Cabo Verde noted the lack of progress regarding the ratification of treaties.
105. Canada commended prosecution against forced labour and human trafficking.
106. The United States said that it is committed to the effective implementation of its human rights obligations and welcomes input on ways to improve. Although it does not

have a single national human rights institution, it has multiple complementary protections and mechanisms to reinforce respect for human rights, including through independent judiciaries at the federal and state levels and numerous state and local human rights institutions.

107. Recently, the Federal Government has increased engagement with state, local, tribal and territorial governments on United States human rights obligations. For example, the state of Illinois and the Federal Government have worked together to protect Illinois residents from discrimination by mortgage lenders and other forms of financial exploitation.

108. Additionally, states and cities of the United States often lead efforts to enforce anti-discrimination laws and implement important reforms. The city of Chicago's significant steps to respond to and prevent incidents of police misconduct include creating a reparations fund and formally apologizing to the victims of certain police violence. Chicago aims to improve relations among police and residents through training and a renewed commitment to community policing.

109. The United States has successfully challenged initiatives by states to criminalize mere undocumented presence in the country.

110. Non-citizens facing removal from the United States are afforded significant procedural protections and those detained can challenge immigration detention in court.

111. The United States is committed to accountability for Homeland Security personnel involved in any wrongdoing or misconduct, including excessive use of force.

112. For individuals detained pending removal proceedings and during the period reasonably necessary to remove them, the United States ensures that they are treated humanely and in a manner consistent with the United States Constitution, federal laws and policies and applicable international obligations.

113. It has established detailed immigration detention standards and remains committed to preventing abuses regarding detention conditions and bringing to justice those who commit them. More people than ever before are enrolled in alternatives to detention programmes.

114. The United States works aggressively to prevent and address human trafficking, through wide-ranging efforts, including those related to training and victims' services.

115. United States federal law prohibits all forms of housing-related discrimination on the basis of race, colour, religion, national origin, sex, disability or number of children.

116. The Government of the United States helps communities pursue alternatives to arrest and prosecution of individuals for various behaviours associated with homelessness by focusing on providing technical assistance and financial resources to help communities provide housing first.

117. In addressing homelessness, the United States has made it a priority first to meet the housing needs of families and individuals, and then provide other social support and assistance, setting an ambitious agenda to reduce all forms of homelessness within the decade and to reduce homelessness among military veterans by the end of 2015.

118. Chad noted concern related to recent events targeting the black community.

119. Chile valued measures implementing human rights standards.

120. China highlighted the deep-rooted human rights problems of the United States.

121. Congo made recommendations.

122. Costa Rica was concerned about racial discrimination and excessive use of force.
123. Côte d'Ivoire encouraged measures against discrimination and violence.
124. Croatia asked about measures against domestic violence and gender discrimination in the workplace.
125. Cuba made a statement.
126. Cyprus commended steps concerning indigenous peoples and human trafficking.
127. Romania noted the presentation of reports to treaty bodies.
128. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea was concerned about human rights violations by the United States.
129. The Democratic Republic of the Congo made a statement.
130. Denmark commended the Central Intelligence Agency report on interrogation practices in detention.
131. The Dominican Republic suggested preventing discrimination against indigenous and people of African descent.
132. Ecuador urged to prosecute torture.
133. Egypt made a statement.
134. El Salvador urged the United States to safeguard migrants' rights, namely, unaccompanied children.
135. Estonia noted the leadership of the United States on freedom of expression.
136. Fiji raised concern about life imprisonment for children convicted of murder.
137. Finland expected the State party to ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women.
138. France made a statement.
139. Gabon encouraged the United States to continue fighting discrimination.
140. Germany made a statement.
141. Ghana commended the United States for its commitment to the universal periodic review.
142. Greece appreciated the commitment of the United States to improve implementation of its human rights obligations.
143. Guatemala noted the abolition of the death penalty in three states.
144. The Holy See acknowledged the efforts of the United States to protect human rights.
145. Honduras welcomed measures to protect unaccompanied migrant children.
146. Hungary noted that no human rights treaties had been ratified since 2010.
147. Iceland made a statement.
148. India noted deficiencies in law enforcement procedures.
149. Indonesia appreciated the engagement of the United States with the universal periodic review.
150. The Islamic Republic of Iran was concerned at the definition of racial discrimination.

151. Iraq welcomed efforts to combat religious discrimination.
152. Ireland was concerned by harsh death row conditions.
153. Israel noted the action plan to assist trafficking victims.
154. Italy appreciated the dedication of the United States to eliminate racial discrimination.
155. Japan noted that the United States had not ratified any human rights treaty since its first universal periodic review.
156. The Plurinational State of Bolivia made a statement.
157. Maldives made a statement.
158. Uzbekistan noted concerns about discrimination and the rights of migrants.
159. The United States said that the detainees held at the Guantanamo Bay facility continue to be detained lawfully, both as a matter of international law and under United States domestic law. At the same time, President Obama has stated that closing the Guantanamo detention facility is a national imperative.
160. The United States is fully committed to ensuring that the individuals it detains in any armed conflict are treated humanely in all circumstances, consistent with applicable United States treaty obligations, its domestic law and policy.
161. Eliminating sexual assault in the military through continuous assessment and improvement to prevention and response programmes remains one of the Department of Defense's top priorities.
162. United States forces go to extraordinary lengths to avoid civilian casualties, and the United States takes seriously and reviews all credible reports of civilian deaths and injuries.
163. The United States has worked steadily over the past several years to clarify, refine and strengthen its standards and procedures for counterterrorism operations outside the United States and areas of active hostilities.
164. As part of its ongoing immigration detention reform programmes, the United States has significantly improved health services for all persons in its custody, including women.
165. For unaccompanied children, the United States is fully committed to holding children only for the shortest amount of time necessary to complete immigration processing and to treating the children with dignity and respect during their time in United States custody.
166. By law, all persons in the United States, including undocumented migrants, are entitled to emergency health services, regardless of legal status.
167. The United States is taking steps to improve access to health care for members of racial and ethnic minorities, including through the enactment and implementation of the Affordable Care Act in 2010.
168. The United States is committed to promoting women's health and eliminating barriers to health-care services. The Government of the United States regularly reviews its policies to take all appropriate measures to improve the health and status of women and girls around the world, including survivors of sexual violence.
169. In all cases where the death penalty is or can be applied, the United States seeks to ensure the absence of racial discrimination and respect for legal and procedural safeguards.
170. Each United States federal agency has an official tribal consultation policy for matters directly affecting tribal nations. President Obama established the White House

Council on Native American Affairs, composed of leaders of each of the cabinet-level agencies, who meet with tribes on a quarterly basis.

171. The United States introduced the initiative entitled "Generation Indigenous", a new effort to engage Native youth, and it will host a native youth conference in July 2015.

172. The United States remains committed to self-determination and self-governance, empowering tribes to make their own decisions about the future of their peoples.

173. The United States is committed to supporting tribes' efforts to recover their human remains, sacred and ceremonial objects and cultural property that has been stolen, looted or trafficked.

174. The United States is concerned about the pay gap between men and women, and President Obama has issued Executive Order 13665, intended to protect workers and job applicants from discrimination by federal contractors if they inquire about, disclose or discuss their compensation or that of another applicant or worker.

175. The United States welcomed and paid tribute to civil society groups for their vigorous engagement throughout the first and second cycles of the universal periodic review, noting that it fully supports and welcomes civil society's involvement.

II. Conclusions and recommendations**

176. The following recommendations will be examined by the United States of America, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirtieth session of the Human Rights Council, from 14 September to 2 October 2015:

176.1 Consider the ratification of those international human rights instruments to which the United States is still not a party (Peru);

176.2 Ratify the international human rights instruments to which it is not a party (Nicaragua);

176.3 Ratify all international human rights instruments to which it is not yet a State party (Plurinational State of Bolivia);

176.4 Take genuine steps towards the ratification of treaties and optional protocols to conventions that the United States has already signed, but not yet ratified (Germany);

176.5 Accelerate the ratification of outstanding international human rights legal instruments (Viet Nam);

176.6 Consider ratifying more human rights instruments (Israel);

176.7 Consider ratifying the core international human rights instruments and other relevant international conventions (Panama);

176.8 Work more to join the international treaties on human rights (Tunisia);

176.9 Withdraw all reservations to international human rights treaties and implement their provisions fully and in good faith (Russian Federation);

** The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

- 176.10 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Timor-Leste);
- 176.11 Sign and ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Chile);
- 176.12 Consider the ratification of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Namibia);
- 176.13 Establish a formal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Australia);
- 176.14 Adhere to international legal instruments to which it is not yet a party, particularly the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Gabon);
- 176.15 Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Uzbekistan) / Ratify as soon as possible the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (China) / Become a State party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Trinidad and Tobago);
- 176.16 Step up efforts to ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Philippines);
- 176.17 Consider ratifying the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and also consider acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Mauritius);
- 176.18 Proceed to the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, signed in 1995, the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women, signed in 1980, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, signed in 1977, and transpose them into national law (Luxembourg);
- 176.19 Promptly ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as other core human rights conventions, such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Nepal);
- 176.20 Accede to the key international human rights instruments: the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (Sierra Leone);
- 176.21 Consider ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as well as the optional protocols to these conventions to which the United States is still not a party (Kazakhstan);

176.22 Reinforce its role as a global leader on human rights by becoming a party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Australia);

176.23 Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (Bulgaria);

176.24 Consider early ratification of international conventions like the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (India);

176.25 Expedite the ratification process of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women and consider ratifying other international human rights conventions, particularly the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Indonesia);

176.26 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Egypt);

176.27 Consider the ratification of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Romania);

176.28 Ratify in due course instruments such as the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Cabo Verde);

176.29 Ratify international human rights treaties particularly the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Togo);

176.30 Ratify the core international human rights instruments, in particular the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (Paraguay);

176.31 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child and ensure their full implementation (Botswana);

176.32 Contribute to the universal application of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women by ratifying these two important human rights conventions at an early stage (Iceland);

176.33 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Ghana);

176.34 Consider the option of ratifying the relevant international conventions, mainly the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Democratic Republic of the Congo);

176.35 Urgently move to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (New Zealand);

176.36 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, as previously recommended (Hungary);

176.37 Continue to exert efforts to ratify major international human rights instruments, particularly including the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Republic of Korea);

176.38 Consider ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as the other core international human rights treaties that the United States is not a party to (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);

176.39 Ratify without delay the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women in accordance with its previously expressed commitment (Czech Republic);

176.40 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (Turkey) (Iraq) (Slovenia) (Bosnia and Herzegovina) (France) (Canada) / Ratify as soon as possible the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (China) / Become a State Party to the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (Trinidad and Tobago) / Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women as soon as possible (Japan);

176.41 Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (Lebanon);

176.42 Speed up its national examination procedures with a view of prompt ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (Latvia);

176.43 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Lebanon);

- 176.44 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Switzerland) (Denmark);
- 176.45 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and take swift measures to ensure the human rights of convicts and persons in custody (Estonia);
- 176.46 Consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Austria);
- 176.47 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Mali);
- 176.48 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Sweden) (Timor-Leste) (Algeria) (Maldives) (France) (Portugal) (Slovenia) / Ratify as soon as possible the Convention on the Rights of the Child (China) (Japan) Become a party to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Canada);
- 176.49 Ratify and implement into domestic law the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Estonia);
- 176.50 Expedite the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Libya);
- 176.51 Pass legislation domestically to prohibit the passing of life imprisonment without the possibility of parole on offenders who were children at the time of offending, and ratify without any further delay the Convention on the Rights of the Child (Fiji);
- 176.52 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Czech Republic);
- 176.53 Ratify the major human rights instruments, in particular the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Honduras);
- 176.54 Ratify, among others, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families / Accede to the American Convention on Human Rights and recognize the competence of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (Chile);
- 176.55 Consider ratifying the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Burkina Faso);
- 176.56 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 176.57 Improve the protection of children at national level by ratifying the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols (Slovakia);

- 176.58 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Guatemala) (Canada) (Bosnia and Herzegovina) / Ratify as soon as possible the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (China);
- 176.59 Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (Guatemala);
- 176.60 Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families and the International Labour Organization Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) (Philippines);
- 176.61 Ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the International Labour Organization Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) (Sudan);
- 176.62 Ratify the Arms Trade Treaty thus strengthening international regulation of the trade and transfer of conventional weapons, including small arms and light weapons (Trinidad and Tobago);
- 176.63 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (New Zealand);
- 176.64 Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Timor-Leste) (Maldives) (France) (Guatemala) (Slovenia) / Become a State party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Trinidad and Tobago);
- 176.65 Become a State party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Chad);
- 176.66 Ratify and fully align its national legislation with all the obligations under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Latvia);
- 176.67 Ratify without delay the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Fiji);
- 176.68 Take concrete steps towards ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court as early as possible (Cyprus);
- 176.69 Boost the cooperation with the International Criminal Court with the objective to accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Luxembourg);
- 176.70 Ratify all international human rights conventions and protocols and those of the International Labour Organization and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 176.71 Ratify the fundamental International Labour Organization Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No.29) and Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No.138) (Uzbekistan);
- 176.72 Positively consider signing and ratifying the principal international and inter-American human rights instruments, as well as reviewing the reservations and declarations that may affect the object and purpose of such instruments (Uruguay);
- 176.73 Conduct human rights awareness-raising activities for law enforcement officers (Viet Nam);

- 176.74 Strengthen human rights education programmes and training for all civil servants, particularly for law enforcement and immigration officers, and combat impunity concerning abuses against defenceless persons (Costa Rica);
- 176.75 Create a national human rights institution (Senegal);
- 176.76 Set up a federal human rights institution (Congo) / Strengthen its institutional framework by establishing an independent human rights institution in accordance with the Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles) (Tunisia) / Establish an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Paraguay);
- 176.77 Create a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 176.78 Establish an independent national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Poland);
- 176.79 Establish a centralized national human rights institution which is in line with the Paris Principles (Sierra Leone);
- 176.80 Consider the establishment of the independent national human rights institution (Republic of Korea);
- 176.81 Consider the establishment of a national human rights institution (Sudan);
- 176.82 Consider establishing a national human rights institution (India) / Consider establishing a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Nepal) / Consider the possibility of establishing an independent national human rights institution in line with the Paris Principles (Panama) / Consider establishing an independent national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles to further improve coordination in the human rights sphere at the national level (Ukraine) / Consider establishing promptly a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Democratic Republic of the Congo) / Consider establishing a national human rights institution, in accordance to the Paris Principles (Indonesia);
- 176.83 Consider establishing national human rights institution (Kenya);
- 176.84 Consider establishing an independent national human rights institution, in accordance with the Paris Principles (Kazakhstan);
- 176.85 Accelerate the process of establishment of the national human rights institution (Gabon);
- 176.86 Establish a national human rights institution to provide national coherence to the efforts of promotion and protection of human rights (Morocco);
- 176.87 Create a human rights institution at the federal level in accordance with the Paris Principles as a national "focal point" for the promotion and protection of human rights (Hungary);
- 176.88 Continue strengthening the existing human rights monitoring mechanisms (Nepal);
- 176.89 Work towards the establishment of a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles (Philippines);

- 176.90 Establish a national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles and adopt a national action plan to address structural racial discrimination (Chile);
- 176.91 Adopt an action plan consistent with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action in an effort to eradicate racial discrimination effectively (Namibia);
- 176.92 Adopt and implement a national plan in accordance with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (Cuba);
- 176.93 Take all legal measures to adopt and implement a national racial justice plan consistent with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 176.94 Undertake measures to combat racial discrimination, including adoption of a National Action Plan to Combat Racial Discrimination as recommended by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (South Africa);
- 176.95 Adopt and implement a national plan inspired by the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, for the benefit especially of disadvantaged minorities, which are Afro-Americans and indigenous peoples (Cabo Verde);
- 176.96 Unconditionally abolish its extraterritorial legislation on human rights and related matters, including the "North Korea Human Rights Act" (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 176.97 Interpret the Helms Amendment on the Allocation of Foreign Assistance in such a way that United States foreign assistance enables safe abortion for women and girls who have been raped and impregnated in conflict situations (Netherlands);
- 176.98 Clarify its interpretation of the Helms Amendment in order to be able to provide safe abortion for rape survivors (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 176.99 Allow foreign assistance to support safe abortion services, where legal in the host country. This should apply as a minimum in the cases of rape, incest and life endangerment, as is also permitted by existing United States federal law (Belgium);
- 176.100 Ensure that the United States international aid allows access to sexual and reproductive health services for women victims of sexual violence in conflict situations (France);
- 176.101 Put an end to all sanctions and unilateral coercive measures that violate sovereignty, the self-determination of the peoples and the full exercise of human rights, imposed to countries in all the regions of the world (Nicaragua);
- 176.102 Raise the level of official development assistance to achieve the United Nations target of 0.7 percent of gross domestic product (Bangladesh);
- 176.103 Repeal the Interventionist Decree against the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and unilateral coercive measures imposed on sovereign countries (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 176.104 Respect the sovereignty and self-determination of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

- 176.105 Pursue the cooperation with international human rights mechanisms (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 176.106 Take further steps to implement the recommendations accepted during the first review cycle (Kazakhstan);
- 176.107 Consider the possibility of establishing a system to follow up on international recommendations, including universal periodic review accepted recommendations (Paraguay);
- 176.108 That a mechanism be established at the federal level to ensure comprehensive and coordinated compliance with international human rights instruments at the federal, local and state levels (Norway);
- 176.109 Issue a standing invitation to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council (Czech Republic) / Extend a standing invitation for special procedures mandate holders (Germany) / Extend a standing invitation to the special procedures (Guatemala);
- 176.110 Consider extending a standing invitation to all special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Latvia);
- 176.111 Enhance further cooperation with human rights mechanisms, including issuing a standing invitation to special procedures and providing full access to the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Republic of Korea);
- 176.112 Consider issuing standing invitations to all special procedures and institute measures to ensure women are paid equally as men for the same work (Ghana);
- 176.113 End various forms of inequality (Egypt);
- 176.114 Improve domestic legislation towards a genuine gender equality in the working place (Congo);
- 176.115 Ensure that women receive equal pay for equal work so as to close the gender pay gap (Serbia);
- 176.116 Eliminate discrimination against women by introducing paid maternity leave and providing equal pay for women for the same work (Maldives);
- 176.117 Issue a decree on compulsory maternity leave and equal wages for men and women (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 176.118 Put forward continued efforts in raising awareness and working towards addressing issues related to the racial discrimination (Republic of Korea);
- 176.119 Take administrative and legal measures against perpetrators of racially motivated acts (Bangladesh);
- 176.120 Strengthen the existing laws and legislation in order to combat different forms of discrimination, racism and hatred (Lebanon);
- 176.121 Take further measures to eliminate racial discrimination in all of its forms and manifestations, in particular, by prohibiting the practice of race profiling in law enforcement, as recommended by the United Nations treaty bodies (Kazakhstan);

- 176.122 Bring in line the definition of racial discrimination in federal and state legislation with the provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (Ghana);
- 176.123 Combat better against racial discrimination (Senegal);
- 176.124 Invest further efforts in addressing the root causes of recent racial incidents and expand its capacity in reducing poverty in neighbourhoods experiencing sub/par public services, including access to adequate housing and public safety (Serbia);
- 176.125 End discrimination in law and practice against all minorities and migrants, particularly against women and children from poor families and take effective steps to prevent and combat violence against them (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 176.126 Abolish any discriminatory measures that target Muslims and Arabs at airports (Egypt);
- 176.127 Continue to strengthen police-community relations with a view to reduce tension in the community (Montenegro);
- 176.128 Continue efforts in strengthening police-community relations (Rwanda);
- 176.129 Continue the efforts to examine how to strengthen public trust and foster strong relationships between local law enforcement and communities they serve (Albania);
- 176.130 Collaborate closely with marginalized communities to fix the problems in the justice system that continues to discriminate against them despite recent waves of protest over racial profiling and police killings of unarmed black men (Namibia);
- 176.131 Continue to take strong actions, including appropriate judicial measures, to counter all forms of discrimination and hate crimes, in particular those based on religion and ethnicity (Singapore);
- 176.132 Toughen its efforts to prevent religion and hate crimes as it is evident that the crimes are on the increase (Nigeria);
- 176.133 Continue its efforts in preventing and prosecuting hate crimes (Israel);
- 176.134 Continue to engage with the affected communities to provide protection to those most vulnerable to hate crimes and discrimination, and to better understand their circumstances (Singapore);
- 176.135 Strengthen the laws and mechanisms at the federal and state levels to further combat racial discrimination in all its forms as well as against hate speech and hate crimes, to ensure that people are protected therefrom; (Niger);
- 176.136 Prohibit racial discrimination and racist hate speech, as well as broaden the protection afforded by law (Azerbaijan);
- 176.137 Take concrete measures to combat racial discrimination in law enforcement and in the administration of justice (Maldives);
- 176.138 Take necessary measures to combat discriminatory practices against women and migrant workers in the labour market (Algeria);

- 176.139 Strengthen the existing mechanisms to prevent the excessive use of force and discriminatory practices in police work (Peru);
- 176.140 Take necessary measures to ensure that its commitment to eliminating racial discrimination is fully respected, particularly by law and order forces, as well as by the criminal justice system (Algeria);
- 176.141 Take necessary measures to fight against discriminatory practices of the police based on ethnic origin (France);
- 176.142 Address discrimination, racial profiling by the authorities, Islamophobia and religious intolerance by reviewing all laws and practices that violate the rights of minority groups, with a view to amending them (Malaysia);
- 176.143 Prohibit that federal authorities undertake racial profiles, and investigate the disproportionate use of lethal force against coloured people by state and local police (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 176.144 Double its efforts in combating violence and the excessive use of force by law enforcement officers based on racial profiling through training, sensitization and community outreach, as well as ensuring proper investigation and prosecution when cases occur (Malaysia);
- 176.145 That the process of round-table discussions among law enforcement, elected officials and community members, aimed to stem profiling and excessive use of force by the police should be stepped up to cover as many cities as possible (Nigeria);
- 176.146 Stop the practice of racial profiling in the judicial and law enforcement systems (Russian Federation);
- 176.147 Eliminate the practice of racial profiling and surveillance by law enforcement officials (Azerbaijan);
- 176.148 Effectively combat racial profiling and the use of excessive force by the police against coloured persons (Togo);
- 176.149 Combat racial profiling and Islamophobia on a non-discriminatory basis applicable to all religious groups (Pakistan);
- 176.150 Combat racial profiling, as urged by the Human Rights Committee and Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Bangladesh);
- 176.151 Implement measures to assist states and local governments in combating excessive use of force by the police and eliminating racial profiling (Brazil);
- 176.152 Prohibit federal law enforcement authorities from engaging in racial profiling (Egypt);
- 176.153 Continue efforts at the federal and state levels aimed at overcoming racial discrimination, especially through the implementation of the Priority Enforcement Programme to guard against racial profiling of immigrants and other forms of racial discrimination (Holy See);
- 176.154 Adopt measures at the federal level to prevent and punish excessive use of force by law enforcement officials against members of ethnic and racial minorities, including unarmed persons, which disproportionately affect Afro-American and undocumented migrants (Mexico);

- 176.155 End police brutality against African Americans and rectify the judicial as well as socioeconomic systems that systematically discriminate against them (Pakistan);
- 176.156 Correctly address the root causes of racial discrimination and eliminate the frequently occurred excessive use of force by law enforcement against of African Americans and other ethnic minorities (China);
- 176.157 Continue implementing — at all levels — its policies and programmes aimed to eliminate discrimination on any ground, as well as the use of excessive or unreasonable force in policing (Croatia);
- 176.158 Take measures to put an end to police abuses, including the merciless killing of coloured people, and all racial discrimination (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 176.159 Uphold its obligations to end all forms of racial discrimination in the country and protect the rights of African Americans against police brutality (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 176.160 Take steps to eradicate discrimination and intolerance against any ethnic, racial or religious group and ensure equal opportunity for their economic, social and security rights (Turkey);
- 176.161 Take measures and comprehensive programmes aimed at developing sensitivities among cultures, creating the climate of mutual respect and expanding protection against all forms of discrimination, including profiling on the basis of race, religions or national origin (Indonesia);
- 176.162 Heighten efforts to promote non-discrimination of any kind, including discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity (South Africa);
- 176.163 Keep promoting progress in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex issues, especially in preventing discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation (Israel);
- 176.164 Take affirmative steps to ensure that individuals' religious refusals are regulated to conform with international human rights standards that protect sexual and reproductive rights and the rights to equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity (Sweden);
- 176.165 Abolish the death penalty in those states where it is still used (Nicaragua) / Abolish the death penalty in all states of the Union (Ecuador);
- 176.166 Abolish the death penalty (Costa Rica);
- 176.167 Abolish the death penalty (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 176.168 Continue efforts towards abolishing the death penalty (Austria);
- 176.169 Reduce gradually the number of persons sentenced to death, and ensure that efforts on this matter are pursued (Congo);
- 176.170 Introduce a moratorium at the federal level with view to achieving nationwide moratorium of capital punishment as a first step to abolishing such penalty (Lithuania);
- 176.171 Establish a federal moratorium on the death penalty with a view to the total abolition of the death penalty in the United States (Luxembourg);

- 176.172 Establish a moratorium on death penalty at the federal and states levels with a view to ultimately achieve nationwide legal abolition (Nepal);
- 176.173 Establish a moratorium on the death penalty aiming at its complete abolition in all states (Uruguay);
- 176.174 Establish a moratorium on the application of the death penalty aimed at its abolition and also condone the death penalty for an Argentinian citizen, Victor Saldano, who has been on death row since 1996 (Argentina);
- 176.175 Impose a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty at the federal and state levels (Namibia) / Institute a moratorium on the application of the death penalty with a view to abolition (Togo) / Establish, at the federal level, a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty (France) / Establish an official moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Montenegro) / Establish a moratorium on the application of the death penalty (Spain) / Impose a moratorium on executions and abolish the death penalty in all states of the United States (Turkey) / Ensure the establishment of a moratorium of the death penalty in those states that have not abolished it yet (Chile);
- 176.176 Work towards a moratorium on executions with a view of abolishing the death penalty (Rwanda);
- 176.177 That federal and state authorities impose a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty nationwide (Portugal);
- 176.178 Impose a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty nationwide (Iceland);
- 176.179 Impose a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty nationwide (Ireland);
- 176.180 Introduce a national moratorium on the death penalty aiming at complete abolition and take all necessary measures to ensure that the death penalty complies with minimum standards under international law. Exempt persons with mental illness from execution. Commit to ensuring that the origin of drugs being used is made public (Sweden);
- 176.181 Impose a moratorium on the use of the death penalty (Russian Federation);
- 176.182 Impose at least a moratorium on the death penalty (Azerbaijan);
- 176.183 Formally establish a moratorium on executions at the federal level while engaging with retentionist states to achieve a nationwide moratorium with the objective to ultimately abolish the death penalty nationwide (Germany);
- 176.184 Take all necessary steps to work towards an immediate moratorium on execution of the death penalty, with a view to a complete abolishment, in line with international human rights standards such as the right to live (Netherlands);
- 176.185 Take necessary steps to introduce a moratorium on the use of the death penalty at the federal and state levels (Slovakia);
- 176.186 Impose a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty for federal offences (New Zealand);

- 176.187 Impose a moratorium on executions with a view to abolishing the death penalty nationwide, and ensure that prosecutors in all jurisdictions cease pursuing death sentences (Estonia);
- 176.188 Continue efforts to establish a moratorium and eventually abolish capital punishment in all states (Sierra Leone);
- 176.189 Take into consideration the possibility of adopting a moratorium of capital executions at the state and federal levels, given that 26 states have abolished or adopted a moratorium on capital executions, (Italy);
- 176.190 Consider as a first step the application of a moratorium on executions, both at the state and federal levels, with a view to ultimately abolishing the death penalty (Cyprus) / Consider imposing an official moratorium on executions toward the complete abolition of the death penalty in the country (Greece);
- 176.191 Consider introducing at the federal level a moratorium on the use of the death penalty with a view to its permanent abolition (Holy See);
- 176.192 Consider adoption of a moratorium on the death penalty at the federal level (Uzbekistan);
- 176.193 A review of federal and state legislation to restrict the number of offences carrying the death penalty and steps towards federal- and state-level moratoriums on executions with a view to its permanent abolition (Norway);
- 176.194 Identify the root causes of ethnic disparities concerning especially those sentenced to capital punishment in order to find ways for eliminate ethnic discrimination in the criminal justice system (Angola);
- 176.195 Identify the factors of racial disparity in the use of the death penalty and develop strategies to end possible discriminatory practices (France);
- 176.196 When continuing to implement the death penalty, do not apply it to persons with intellectual disabilities (Spain);
- 176.197 Ensure that no person with a mental disability is executed (France);
- 176.198 Take specific measures in follow-up to the recommendations of the Human Rights Committee to the United States in 2014 with regards to capital punishment such as measures to avoid racial bias, to avoid wrongful sentencing to death and to provide adequate compensation if wrongful sentencing happens (Belgium);
- 176.199 Strengthen the justice sector in order to avoid imposing the death penalty on those persons wrongly convicted, and reconsider the use of methods which give raise to cruel suffering when this punishment is applied (Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- 176.200 Strengthen safeguards against wrongful sentencing to death and subsequent wrongful execution by ensuring, inter alia, effective legal representation for defendants in death penalty cases, including at the post-conviction stage (Poland);
- 176.201 Continue the efforts on the progress towards the abolishment of the death penalty, based on the Department of Justice's review of how it is being applied in the country (Bulgaria);
- 176.202 Commit to full transparency on the combination of medicines used during executions by injection (France);

- 176.203 Put an end to unlawful practices which violate human rights, including extrajudicial executions and arbitrary detention, and close any arbitrary detention centres (Egypt);
- 176.204 Take legal and administrative measures to address civilian killings by the United States military troops during and after its invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq by bringing perpetrators to justice and remedying the victims (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 176.205 Desist from extrajudicial killings such as drone strikes and ensure accountability for civilian loss of life resulting from extraterritorial counter terrorism operations (Malaysia);
- 176.206 Stop extrajudicial killings of citizens of the United States of America and foreigners, including those being committed with the use of remotely piloted aircraft (Russian Federation);
- 176.207 Use armed drones in line with existing international legal regimes and pay compensation to all innocent victims without discrimination (Pakistan);
- 176.208 Investigate and prosecute in courts the perpetrators of selective killings through the use of drones, which has cost the lives of innocent civilians outside the United States (Ecuador);
- 176.209 Punish those responsible for torture, drone killings, use of lethal force against African Americans and compensate the victims (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 176.210 Strengthen safeguards against torture in all detention facilities in any territory under its jurisdiction, ensure proper and transparent investigation and prosecution of individuals responsible for all allegations of torture and ill-treatment, including those documented in the unclassified Senate summary on Central Intelligence Agency activities published in 2014 and provide redress to victims (Czech Republic);
- 176.211 Enact comprehensive legislation prohibiting all forms of torture and take measures to prevent all acts of torture in areas outside the national territory under its effective control (Austria);
- 176.212 Stop acts of torture by United States government officials, not only in its sovereign territory, but also on foreign soil (Maldives);
- 176.213 Prevent torture and ill-treatment in places of detention and (Azerbaijan);
- 176.214 Prevent the continued police brutality and excessive use of force by law enforcement officials, as well as analyse and eliminate its concrete reasons (Azerbaijan);
- 176.215 Take comprehensive measures to address the use of excessive force by the police and ensure the investigation and the prosecution of all such acts (Bulgaria);
- 176.216 Take further steps to end the use of excessive force in policing in all jurisdictions (Canada);
- 176.217 Respect the absolute prohibition on torture and take measures to guarantee punishment of all perpetrators (Costa Rica);

- 176.218 Ensure the independent and objective investigation of all cases of police arbitrariness, including murders, torture, arbitrary, detention, use of military equipment and seizure of property (Russian Federation);
- 176.219 Strengthen its measures to address police brutality in accordance with existing international standards governing the use of force (Thailand);
- 176.220 Take concrete measures to eliminate racial criteria in the approach of the law enforcement officials and combat the excessive use of force by the same officers (Angola);
- 176.221 Adopt legal and administrative measures necessary to make effective the investigation and sanction of cases of discriminatory police practices and the use of excessive force by security forces, along with the carrying out of awareness-raising campaigns (Argentina);
- 176.222 Continue consultations, investigations and reform programmes under way to eliminate racial discrimination and excessive use of force in policing (Australia);
- 176.223 Implement necessary measures to put an end to the disproportionate use of force against individuals and respect the right of peaceful protest (Turkey);
- 176.224 Ensure a sustained human rights training for law enforcement officers in order to curb killings, brutality and the excessive use of force targeting racial and ethnic minorities, particularly African Americans (Democratic Republic of the Congo);
- 176.225 Continue to vigorously investigate recent cases of alleged police-led human rights abuses against African Americans and seek to build improved relations and trust between United States law enforcement and all communities around the United States (Ireland);
- 176.226 Punish perpetrators of abuse and police brutality, which are increasingly alarming and constitute irrefutable acts of increasing racism and racial discrimination, particularly against African Americans, Latinos and women (Cuba);
- 176.227 Take appropriate measures to eliminate the excessive use of force by the law enforcement officers. We refer to the case of killing the Kazakh national, Kirill Denyakin, by a United States police officer in 2011 in Virginia (Kazakhstan);
- 176.228 Undertake additional measures to address the disproportionate impact of violence on poor, minorities and immigrant women (Botswana);
- 176.229 Investigate cases of deaths of migrants by customs and border patrols, particularly those where there have been indications of an excessive use of force, and ensure accountability and adequate reparation to the families of the victims (Mexico);
- 176.230 Adopt legislation expanding the verification of personal backgrounds for all acquisitions of firearms (Ecuador);
- 176.231 Eliminate gun violence (Azerbaijan);
- 176.232 Take necessary measures to reduce gun violence, concerned at the large number of gun-related deaths and injuries, which disproportionately affect members of racial and ethnic minorities (Iceland);

- 176.233 Consider the adoption of legislation to enhance the verification of the records for all fire arms transfers and the revision of the laws that stipulate self-defence without limitations (Peru);
- 176.234 End the use of life imprisonment without parole for offenders under the age of 18 at the age of crime, regardless of the nature of that crime (Austria);
- 176.235 Abolish life imprisonment without the possibility of parole for non-violent offenses (Benin);
- 176.236 Take further steps to improve the current conditions of its prisons (Japan);
- 176.237 Ensure consistent enforcement of consular notification at all levels of Government and support the passage of related legislation through Congress (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 176.238 Take further legislative steps towards meeting consular notification and access obligations under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, by intensifying already significant efforts made towards this goal, as referred in paragraphs 72 and 73 of the National Report (Greece);
- 176.239 Improve living conditions in prisons in particular in Guantanamo (Sudan);
- 176.240 Work and do all its best in order to close down the Guantanamo facility (Libya);
- 176.241 Immediately close the prison in Guantanamo and cease the illegal detention of terrorism suspects at its military bases abroad (Russian Federation);
- 176.242 Immediately close the Guantanamo facility (Maldives);
- 176.243 Close the Guantanamo prison and release all detainees still held in Guantanamo, unless they are to be charged and tried without further delay (Iceland);
- 176.244 Close Guantanamo and secret detention centres (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 176.245 Close, as soon as possible, the detention centre at Guantanamo Bay and put an end to the indefinite detention of persons considered as enemy combatants (France);
- 176.246 Make further progress in fulfilling its commitment to close the Guantanamo detention facility and abide by the ban on torture and inhumane treatment of all individuals in detention (Malaysia);
- 176.247 Fully disclose the abuse of torture by its Intelligence Agency, ensure the accountability of the persons responsible, and agree to unrestricted visit by the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to Guantanamo facilities (China);
- 176.248 Engage further in the common fight for the prohibition of torture, ensuring accountability and victims' compensation and enable the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment to visit every part of the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay and to conduct unmonitored interviews (Germany);

- 176.249 Take adequate measures to ensure the definite decommissioning of the Guantanamo Military Prison (Spain);
- 176.250 End illegal detentions in Guantanamo Bay or bring the detainees to trial immediately (Pakistan);
- 176.251 Put an end to the practice of secret detention (Azerbaijan);
- 176.252 Halt the detention of immigrant families and children, seek alternatives to detention and end use of detention for reason of deterrence (Sweden);
- 176.253 Consider alternatives to the detention of migrants, particularly children (Brazil);
- 176.254 Treat migrant children in detention with due respect to human rights and work with neighbouring countries to address migrant smuggling challenges in order to end human trafficking (Thailand);
- 176.255 Promote actions to eradicate sexual and domestic violence (Israel);
- 176.256 Guarantee the right to access to justice and effective remedies to all indigenous women who were victims of violence (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia);
- 176.257 Continue to pay attention to violence against indigenous women by ensuring that all reports of violence, in particular sexual violence and rape against indigenous women, are thoroughly investigated, with a focus on ending impunity and bringing perpetrators before justice (Finland);
- 176.258 Redouble efforts to prevent sexual violence in the military and ensure effective prosecution of offenders and redress for victims (Slovenia);
- 176.259 Put an end to all United States military presence in foreign territories, which is the root cause of human rights abuses, including homicide and rape (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 176.260 Conduct impartial and objective investigations of all cases of cruel treatment of adopted children in order to eliminate impunity for such crimes (Russian Federation);
- 176.261 Remove the agriculture exemption in the Fair Labour Standards Act which would raise the age for harvesting and hazardous work for hired children taking care to distinguish between farm owner and farm worker children (Belgium);
- 176.262 Repeal the Amendment of slavery against agricultural workers, especially women and children (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 176.263 Ensure protection against exploitation and forced labour for all categories of workers, including farm and domestic workers, through such measures as a review of appropriate labour regulations (Canada);
- 176.264 Adapt its normative framework to ensure that all categories of workers enjoy protection from exploitation and forced labour (Algeria);
- 176.265 Prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings, including the home and schools, and ensure that the United States encourages non-violent forms of discipline as alternatives to corporal punishment (Liechtenstein);
- 176.266 Prioritize the implementation of a plan of action to combat the sale of children and child prostitution (Trinidad and Tobago);

- 176.267 Increase the minimum age for voluntary recruitment into the armed forces to 18 years, and criminalize explicitly the violation of the provisions of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (Uruguay);
- 176.268 Continue to fight crimes of human trafficking (Lebanon);
- 176.269 Further increase the efforts to combat trafficking in persons (Armenia);
- 176.270 An increase in resources for nationwide anti-trafficking awareness programmes, including law enforcement training (Portugal);
- 176.271 Implement the strategic action plan on human trafficking as well as to strengthen services for trafficking victims (Sudan);
- 176.272 Establish, where appropriate, specialized services required for children and women who have been trafficked or sold for sexual exploitation (Canada);
- 176.273 Address trafficking in persons, and in particular sexual exploitation of children that results from this trafficking (Maldives);
- 176.274 Devise a national strategy for the reinsertion of former detainees and to prevent recidivism (Morocco);
- 176.275 Accelerate the process of passing a legislation to reform the mandatory minimum sentences begun with the Smart on Crime initiative (Nigeria);
- 176.276 Conduct in-depth examinations into how race-related issues are affecting law enforcement and the administration of justice (Ghana);
- 176.277 Conduct in-depth examinations into how race-related issues were affecting law enforcement and the administration of justice, both at the federal and state levels (Poland);
- 176.278 Establishing an independent commission chaired by a special Prosecutor to help identify and incarcerate the crimes perpetrated by individuals or groups based on racism (Libya);
- 176.279 Comply with the international cooperation principles laid down in General Assembly resolution 3074 (XXVIII) regarding the extradition of persons accused of crimes against humanity, and extradite former Bolivian authorities legally charged for their trial in the country of origin (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 176.280 Extradite Luis Posada Carriles and other terrorists sought by the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 176.281 Investigate in a transparent manner all cases of human rights violations against protesters (Russian Federation);
- 176.282 Prosecute all Central Intelligence Agency operatives that have been held responsible for torture by the United States Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (Pakistan);
- 176.283 Allow an independent body to investigate allegations of torture and to end the impunity of perpetrators (Switzerland);
- 176.284 Prosecute and punish those responsible for torture (Cuba);

- 176.285 Investigate the Central Intelligence Agency torture crimes, which stirred up indignation and denunciation among people, to disclose all information and to allow investigation by international community in this regard (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);
- 176.286 Further ensure that all victims of torture and ill-treatment — whether still in United States custody or not — obtain redress and have an enforceable right to fair and adequate compensation and as full rehabilitation as possible, including medical and psychological assistance (Denmark);
- 176.287 Investigate the excessive use of force by the police and prosecute the responsible, with a view to putting an end to such practices (Egypt);
- 176.288 Investigate torture allegations, extrajudicial executions and other violations of human rights committed in Guantanamo, Abu Ghraib, Bagram, NAMA and BALAD camps and to subsequently close them (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 176.289 Improve access to justice, including due process and redress, for victims of sexual violence in the military; this would include removing from the chain of command the decision about whether to prosecute cases of alleged assault (Denmark);
- 176.290 Adopt legal and administrative measures to make effective the investigation and sanction of violations of human rights during international operations, in which members of armed forces and other government agents participate (Argentina);
- 176.291 Ensure that youth in conflict with the law are handled by the juvenile justice system and have access to free legal advisory assistance (Republic of Moldova);
- 176.292 Ensure that children under 18 are handled by the juvenile justice system in all circumstances (Slovenia);
- 176.293 Fully respect and protect the right to privacy (Azerbaijan);
- 176.294 Take measures against arbitrary or illegal interferences in private life and correspondence (Costa Rica);
- 176.295 Take adequate and effective steps to guarantee against arbitrary and unlawful acquisition of this data (Kenya);
- 176.296 Review their national laws and policies in order to ensure that all surveillance of digital communications is consistent with its international human rights obligations and is conducted on the basis of a legal framework which is publicly accessible, clear, precise, comprehensive and non-discriminatory (Liechtenstein);
- 176.297 Provide effective legal and procedural guarantees against collection and use by security services of personal information, including abroad (Russian Federation);
- 176.298 Take all necessary measures to ensure an independent and effective oversight by all government branches of the overseas surveillance operations of the National Security Agency, especially those carried out under the Executive Order 12333, and guarantee access to effective judicial and other remedies for people whose right to privacy would have been violated by the surveillance activities of the United States (Switzerland);

- 176.299 Ensure that all surveillance policies and measures comply with international human rights law, particularly the right to privacy, regardless of the nationality or location of those affected, including through the development of effective safeguards against abuses (Brazil);
- 176.300 Cease spying on communications and private data of people in the world (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 176.301 Stop massive surveillance activities both inside and outside its territory to avoid violating the right to privacy of its citizens and those of other countries (China);
- 176.302 Suspend the interception, holding and use of communications, including the surveillance and extraterritorial interception and the scope of the surveillance operations against citizens, institutions and representatives of other countries, which violate the right to privacy, international laws and the principle of State sovereignty recognized in the Charter of the United Nations (Cuba);
- 176.303 Respect international human rights obligations regarding the right to privacy when intercepting digital communications of individuals, collecting personal data or requiring disclosure of personal data from third parties (Germany);
- 176.304 Strengthen the independent federal-level judicial and legislative oversight of surveillance activities of all digital communications with the aim of ensuring that the right of privacy is fully upheld, especially with regard to individuals outside the territorial borders of the United States (Hungary);
- 176.305 Respect the privacy of individuals outside the United States in the context of digital communications and data (Pakistan);
- 176.306 Amend visa application system by removing any requirements that violate the right to privacy (Egypt);
- 176.307 Improve the legal basis that would ensure respect for the privacy of individuals (Turkey);
- 176.308 Uphold a consistent and robust protection of religious freedom, including religious speech and conscientious objection, and provide for accommodation of religious views and actions regarding social issues (Holy See);
- 176.309 Guarantee the right by all residents in the country to adequate housing, food, health and education, with the aim of decreasing poverty, which affects 48 millions of people in the country (Cuba);
- 176.310 Amend laws that criminalize homelessness and which are not in conformity with international human rights instruments (Egypt);
- 176.311 Continue efforts to implement the human right to safe water and sanitation, ensuring this human right without discrimination for the poorest sectors of the population, including indigenous peoples and migrants (Spain);
- 176.312 Ensure compliance with the human right to water and sanitation according to General Assembly resolution 64/292 (Plurinational State of Bolivia);

- 176.313 While recognizing economic, social and cultural measures, strengthen efforts in ensuring equal access to health-care and social services (South Africa);
- 176.314 Continue efforts regarding access to the right to health (Spain);
- 176.315 Strengthen measures promoting access of vulnerable population to public and social and health services (Côte d'Ivoire);
- 176.316 Ensure equal access to equality maternal health and related services as an integral part of the realization of women's rights (Finland);
- 176.317 Further efforts in this positive direction with a view to strengthen national health-care programmes so that health care is easily accessible, available and affordable for all members of society (Serbia);
- 176.318 The removal of blanket restrictions on abortion for United States foreign assistance to permit its use for safe abortion in cases of rape, life or health endangerment and incest in countries where abortion is legal (Norway);
- 176.319 Continue to promote the right to education, including ensuring equal access to education for vulnerable groups (Armenia);
- 176.320 Take concrete steps to include the right to education in the Constitution (Maldives);
- 176.321 Guarantee the enjoyment of human rights of the minorities and vulnerable groups in the country, including the indigenous peoples and migrants (Nicaragua);
- 176.322 Fully implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and remove discriminatory legal barriers (Egypt);
- 176.323 Implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 176.324 Regularly consult with indigenous peoples on matters of interest to their communities, to support their rights to traditionally owned lands and resources and to adopt measures to effectively protect sacred areas of indigenous peoples against environmental exploitation and degradation (Republic of Moldova);
- 176.325 Respond to the suggestion made by the special procedures in paragraph 69 (n) of document A/68/284 regarding cases of Alaska, Hawaii and Dakota (Pakistan);
- 176.326 Respect indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities' rights and interests; fully consult with them on their land, autonomy, environment, language and other issues; correct the historical injustice and offer compensation (China);
- 176.327 Continue its efforts for the implementation of its reform plan of June 2014 concerning the education of American Indian students and make use of education grant available to better meet the needs of American Indian and Alaskan native students (Albania);
- 176.328 Review regulations to ensure the protection against exploitation and forced labour of migrant workers (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 176.329 Review in depth its migration policy (Congo);
- 176.330 Further improve the rights of immigrants (Senegal);

- 176.331 Effectively respect for the rights of all migrant workers and their family members (Benin);
- 176.332 That special attention is given to protecting migrant workers from exploitative working conditions, specifically in the agricultural sector (Portugal);
- 176.333 Ensure the rights of migrant workers, especially in the sector of agriculture where the use of child labourers is a common practice (Holy See);
- 176.334 Avoid criminalization of migrants (Uruguay);
- 176.335 Facilitating access for undocumented immigrants and their children to health care under that Act (Portugal);
- 176.336 Consider the establishment of legislation providing for access to basic services for undocumented migrants, particularly health services, in conformity with the Affordable Care Act (Peru);
- 176.337 Consider reviewing the eligibility requirements to the public welfare system, so that the basic human rights of immigrants, including the undocumented, are guaranteed, in particular access to health for women and children (Honduras);
- 176.338 Guarantee the right to family reunification of migrants held in detention and continue with the efforts to protect the human rights of migrant persons, particularly their economic, social and cultural rights (Paraguay);
- 176.339 Ensure due process for all immigrants in immigration proceedings, using the principle of the best interest, especially in the case of families and unaccompanied children (Honduras);
- 176.340 Re-evaluate mechanisms at the federal, state and tribal levels, to address the disproportionate impact on immigrant women (Maldives);
- 176.341 Take up the commitment to address, in a framework of shared but differentiated responsibility and along with the international community, the world problem of climate change and its negative impact (Nicaragua);
- 176.342 Continue to actively participate in the climate change negotiations for a strong legally binding outcome of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change process (Bangladesh);
- 176.343 Ensure federal legislation to prohibit environmental pollution and reduce greenhouse gas emissions to control climate change (Maldives).
177. All conclusions and recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State and the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

[English only]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of the United States of America was headed by The Honorable Keith Harper, United States Ambassador to the Human Rights Council, United States Mission to the United Nations, Geneva and Mary McLeod, Acting Legal Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, Department of State, and composed of the following members:

- The Honorable Kevin Washburn, Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior
- Jocelyn Aqua, Senior Component Official for Privacy, National Security Division, Department of Justice
- David Bitkower, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice
- Scott Busby, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, Department of State
- James Cadogan, Senior Counselor, Office of the Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights, Department of Justice
- Gwendolyn Keyes Fleming, Chief of Staff to the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency
- J. Nadine Gracia, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Minority Health, Department of Health and Human Services
- Bryan Greene, Acting Assistant Secretary and General Deputy Assistant, Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Brigadier General Richard Gross, Legal Counsel to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Department of Defense
- Lieutenant Colonel Lloyd Dennis II Hager, Deputy Legal Counsel, Office of the Chairman's Legal Counsel Department of Defense
- Kathleen Hooke, Assistant Legal Adviser for Human Rights and Refugees, Office of Human Rights and Refugees, Office of the Legal Adviser, Department of State
- Tara Jones, Foreign Affairs Specialist, International Humanitarian Policy, Office of Stability and Humanitarian Affairs, Department of Defense
- Sofija Korac, Foreign Affairs Officer, Office of Multilateral and Global Affairs, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor, Department of State
- Josh Kretman, Attorney Adviser, Office of Human Rights and Refugees, Office of the Legal Adviser Department of State
- Megan Mack, Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Department of Homeland Security
- Laura Olson, Acting Director, Programs Branch, Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Department of Homeland Security

- Eric Richardson, Deputy Political Counselor, Political and Specialized Agencies Office, United States Mission to the United Nations, Geneva
 - David Sullivan, Legal Adviser, Office of Legal Affairs, United States Mission to the United Nations Geneva
 - Valerie Ullrich, Political Officer, Political and Specialized Agencies Office, United States Mission to the United Nations, Geneva
 - Amanda Wall, Attorney Adviser, Office of Human Rights and Refugees, Office of the Legal Adviser Department of State
 - Kevin Whelan, Deputy Legal Adviser, Office of Legal Affairs, United States mission to the United Nations Geneva
 - Eric Wilson, International Affairs Coordinator, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior
- State Government Representative:
- The Honorable Lisa Madigan, Attorney General, State of Illinois
-



General Assembly

Distr.: General
14 September 2015

Original: English

Human Rights Council
Thirtieth session
Agenda item 6
Universal Periodic Review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

United States of America

Addendum

**Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments
and replies presented by the State under review**

* The present document was not edited before being sent to the United Nations translation services.

GE.15-15533(E)



Please recycle



Addendum of the United States of America to the Report of the Working Group on its Universal Periodic Review

1. The U. S. government has carefully reviewed the 343 recommendations received during its Universal Periodic Review. This response reflects our continuing efforts, in consultation with civil society, to promote, protect, and respect human rights for all.
2. Some recommendations ask us to achieve an ideal, e.g., end discrimination or police brutality, and others request action not entirely within the power of our Federal Executive Branch, e.g., adopt legislation, ratify treaties, or act at the state level. We support or support in part these recommendations when we share their ideals, are making serious efforts to achieve their goals, and intend to continue doing so. Nonetheless, we recognize, realistically, that the United States may never completely accomplish what is described in these recommendations' literal terms.
3. We support recommendations to take actions we are already taking or have taken, and intend to continue taking, without in any way implying that our ongoing or prior efforts have been unsuccessful or that these actions are necessarily legally required. With respect to judicial remedies, we note that we cannot make commitments regarding, and do not control, the outcome of court proceedings.
4. Where recommendations include inaccurate assumptions, assertions, or factual predicates, we have decided whether we support them or support them in part by looking past their rhetoric to the proposed action or objective.

Civil Rights and non-discrimination

5. We support:
 - 118,119,123,131,133,134,137,139,140,141,144,145,157,159,160,162,163,216,219, 222,225,228,276,277,281,287.
 - 127,128,129. In December 2014, the President created the Task Force on 21st-Century Policing to make recommendations to strengthen police-community relations. Many state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies are presently implementing many of those recommendations.
 - 214,215,221,223. See general explanation in para. 6.
 - 121,143,146,148,149,150,151,152,153,161,220. Profiling – the invidious use of irrelevant individual characteristics including race, ethnicity, national origin, or religion – is prohibited under our Constitution and federal government policy.
 - 130. See explanation of #126, para. 6.
6. We support, in part:
 - We note that we have federal, state, and tribal legislation and strategies in place to combat discrimination, including racial discrimination, and we take effective measures to counter intolerance, violence, and discrimination against members of all minority groups, including African-Americans, Muslims, Arabs, and indigenous persons:
 - 113,125,154,155,227,321.
 - 120,135,136. We cannot support these recommendations to the extent they ask us to restrict constitutionally-protected belief or expression.

- 122,126,132,156,158,226. We disagree with some of these recommendations' premises, but we are committed to combating discrimination and hate crimes and promoting tolerance. Concerning #122, although we recognize there is always room for improvement, we believe that our law is consistent with our CERD obligations.
 - 142,147. See explanation of #121, para. 5. The U.S. does not monitor communications to disadvantage individuals based on their ethnicity, race, gender, sexual orientation, or religion.
 - 224. Although training largely occurs at the local level, the federal government promotes best practices through technical assistance, investigations, and agreements to reform police practices.
 - 229. We cannot support parts of this recommendation concerning reparations.
 - 308. We support this recommendation insofar as it recommends compliance with our domestic law and international human rights obligations, including regarding freedom of religion.
7. We do not support:
- 278.

Criminal justice

8. We support:
- 73,194,195,200,213,231,232,236,255,275.
 - 74. We support human rights training for civil servants who need it, understanding that not all perform functions that require it (e.g., air-traffic controllers).
 - 199. We support the second part of this recommendation to the extent provided for under our Eighth Amendment, which prohibits imposition of cruel and unusual punishment.
9. We support, in part:
- 198. We support consideration of these recommendations, noting that we may not agree with all of them.
 - 230,233. We strongly support expanding the number of firearms transfers that are subject to background checks but with limited, common-sense exceptions (e.g., certain transfers between family members, temporary transfers for hunting/sporting).
 - 51,234,235. Sentences of life without parole may not be imposed on juveniles for non-homicide crimes. The Administration supports federal legislation to eliminate life-without-parole sentences for juveniles in the federal criminal justice system. Concerning #235, we are not currently contemplating legislation to revise existing life-without-possibility-of-parole laws as applied to adult offenders.
 - 180,196,197. We support these recommendations with respect to measures required to comply with U.S. obligations, and with respect to persons with certain intellectual disabilities, but not all persons with any mental illness.
 - 218. We disagree with some of this recommendation's premises, but we are committed to combating discrimination and improper actions by law enforcement officials.

- 260. We disagree with some of this recommendation's premises, but we are committed to protecting the health and welfare of adopted children.
 - 274. Recidivism is an important criminal justice concern, and we support and have undertaken efforts to address it, including through the Reentry Council.
 - 279. See explanation of #280, para. 10.
 - 291,292. The vast majority of matters involving youth are handled through the juvenile justice system. Factors weighed by courts deciding whether exceptional circumstances warrant trial as an adult include age/background, type/seriousness of the alleged offense, the juvenile's role, and prior record/past treatment. Concerning #291, juveniles have the right to free legal representation in all criminal and delinquency proceedings, and in many cases, it is also available for civil proceedings.
10. We do not support:
- 202.
 - 13,165,166,167,168,169,170,171,172,173,174,175,176,177,178,179,181,182,183, 184,185,186,187,188,189,190,191,192,193,201, which concern abolition of the death penalty.
 - 280. Decisions on extradition cases are made on a case-by-case basis, consistent with our international obligations, and we cannot prejudge the outcomes of particular cases.

Economic, social, and cultural rights and measures; indigenous issues; and the environment

11. We support:
- 124,257,313,315,316,317,319,327.
 - 322,323,324,326. We support these recommendations consistent with our 2010 Announcement of Support for the UNDRIP.
12. We support, in part:
- 256. See general explanation in para. 3.
 - 100. We support this recommendation's principle: addressing the needs of women who have been victims of sexual violence in conflict situations.
 - 164. See explanation of #308, para. 6.
 - 309,311,312,314. The U.S. is not a party to the ICESCR, and we understand the rights therein are to be realized progressively. We understand #311-312 as referencing a right to safe drinking water and sanitation, derived from the right to an adequate standard of living. We continue to improve our domestic laws and policies to promote access to housing, food, health, and safe drinking water and sanitation, with the aim of decreasing poverty and preventing discrimination. Concerning #312, we do not regard UNGA Resolution 64/292 as legally-binding.
 - 310. We disagree with some of this recommendation's premises, but are committed to helping communities pursue alternatives to criminalizing homelessness. We believe our laws are consistent with our international obligations.

- 338. We support this recommendation insofar as it recommends compliance with our international human rights obligations.
 - 341,342,343. We support these recommendations insofar as they encourage domestic action on climate change and international efforts to reach an agreement that is ambitious, inclusive, and applicable to all countries.
13. We do not support:
- 97,98,99,102,318,320,325.
 - 335,336,337. Undocumented migrants in the U.S. have access to publicly-supported healthcare through Migrant Health Centers. Undocumented unaccompanied children are eligible for health care while in federal government-funded shelters.

National security

14. We support:
- 303.
 - 239,240,242,244,246,249,251. We have clearly stated our desire to close the Guantanamo Bay detention facility and to continue working with Congress, the courts, and other countries to do so in a responsible manner that is consistent with our international obligations. Until it is closed, we will continue to ensure that operations there are consistent with our international obligations. Concerning #244 and 251, the U.S. does not operate secret detention centers. We allow the ICRC access to individuals we detain in armed conflict. We support #246 insofar as it recommends upholding our international obligations, and as consistent with domestic law and policy.
 - 283,284. See explanation of #210, para. 15.
 - 290. We support this recommendation insofar as it recommends upholding our international obligations, and as consistent with domestic law and policy. We take great care to ensure that our uses of force – including targeted strikes – conform to all applicable domestic and international law, including the law of war principles of proportionality and distinction.
 - 293,294,295,296,307. We support these recommendations insofar as they recommend respect for ICCPR Article 17, which applies to individuals within a state's territory and subject to its jurisdiction. Our Constitution and laws contain appropriate protections for privacy of communications, consistent with our international human rights obligations, and we publicize our policies to the extent possible, consistent with national security needs. We frequently update and draft new laws, regulations, and policies to further protect individuals' privacy.
15. We support, in part:
- We support these recommendations insofar as they recommend upholding international obligations, and as consistent with domestic law and policy. We reject certain premises in these recommendations, which constitute unsubstantiated accusations of ongoing serious violations of international law:
 - 203,211,212,217,258,286,288.
 - 210,247,248. Consistent with international obligations and U.S. domestic law, we have conducted and will continue to conduct thorough independent investigations of credible allegations of torture, and to prosecute persons

when there is sufficient legal basis. For example, DOJ conducted criminal investigations into alleged mistreatment of individuals in U.S. custody after the 2001 terrorist attacks, including appointment of a special prosecutor to investigate certain allegations, and brought several criminal prosecutions for abusing detainees and obtained the convictions of two contractors. In addition, DoD, CIA, and others have conducted numerous independent, rigorous investigations into detainee treatment, detention policy, and conditions of confinement. Concerning #247–248, we have extended an invitation to the Special Rapporteur on Torture to visit Guantanamo Bay consistent with the terms of other comparable visits to Guantanamo Bay.

- 204,205,206,207,209. See explanation of #290, para. 14. DoD investigates all credible allegations of misconduct by its personnel and pursues judicial or administrative action against alleged perpetrators as appropriate. For #205–207 and 209, we conduct lethal, targeted action against al-Qaeda and its associated forces, including with remotely piloted aircraft, in order to prevent terrorist attacks on the U.S. and to save lives. Concerning #207 and 209, if we determine that non-combatants were killed or injured in a U.S. strike, we may, where appropriate, offer condolence or other *ex gratia* payments to those injured and the families of those killed. Concerning #209, we remain committed to investigating and prosecuting willful use of excessive force by law enforcement officers.
 - 241,243,245,250. See explanation of #239, para. 14. We reject the premise in #241 and 250 that the U.S. engages in illegal detention of terrorism suspects. We support the parts of these recommendations asking that we close Guantanamo.
 - 289. DoD has established victim-representation programs for sexual assault victims eligible for legal assistance, consistent with the findings of an independent study concluding that removing proceedings from the chain of command was not needed to improve the situation of victims.
 - 297,298,299,304,305. We collect information only in accordance with U.S. law and international obligations. Presidential Policy Directive 28 states that all persons should be treated with dignity and respect, regardless of nationality or place of residence, and that all persons have legitimate privacy interests in the handling of their personal information. Our foreign intelligence oversight system is robust and transparent, and includes executive, legislative, and judicial bodies. We support #299 and 304–305 insofar as they recommend respect for the ICCPR, Article 17, which applies to individuals within a state's territory and subject to its jurisdiction.
16. We do not support:
- 208,259,267,282,285,300,301,302.

Immigration, migrants, trafficking, labor, and children

17. We support:
- 112,114,115,253,263,268,269,270,271,272,273,328,329,330,332,333,340.
 - 138,264. U.S. federal labor and employment laws generally apply to all workers, regardless of immigration status.

- 254. Since perpetrators of human trafficking or migrant smuggling-related crimes can remain in neighboring countries, we rely on the support of foreign partners to combat both.
 - 262. We support this recommendation insofar as it recommends prohibition of slavery for agricultural workers. All workers in the U.S., regardless of immigration status, are protected from forced labor by U.S. law, including our Thirteenth Amendment and the Trafficking Victims Protection Act.
 - 266. We prioritize combating sex trafficking of minors and human trafficking generally, including through the National Strategy for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction, scheduled for release in 2016, and the Attorney General's annual human trafficking report, which features recommendations for improvement in combating trafficking. The Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, enacted in May 2015, authorizes the Attorney General to implement and maintain a National Strategy for Combating Human Trafficking.
 - 331. We understand the reference to family members of migrant workers to mean those located within the U.S.
18. We support, in part:
- 306. See general explanation in para. 4.
 - 116,117. U.S. law allows, but does not require, employers to offer paid maternity leave. The Family and Medical Leave Act entitles eligible employees to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave in a year for the birth and care of newborn or adopted/foster children.
 - 252. We actively utilize alternatives to detention where appropriate, and are working to shorten detention families may face while their immigration proceedings are resolved. Conditions at Family Residential Centers are continually being evaluated and improved.
 - 265. We support this recommendation insofar as it encourages non-violent forms of discipline. Excessive or arbitrary corporal punishment is prohibited under our Constitution, and we take effective measures to help ensure non-discrimination in school discipline policies and practices.
 - 339. Noncitizens in the U.S. facing removal receive significant procedural protections. The best interest of a child is one factor in determinations by immigration judges. HHS provides care and placement for children who enter the U.S. without an adult guardian, considering the best interests of the child in all placement decisions.
19. We do not support:
- 261.
 - 334. Although unlawful presence in the U.S. is not a crime, and the federal government does not support state initiatives intended to criminalize mere status, certain immigration offenses are subject to criminal sanction (e.g., illegal entry).

Treaties, international mechanisms, and domestic implementation

20. We support:
- 88,105,106,110.

- 1,7,12,17,21,23,24,25,27,31,32,34,35,38,39,40,41,42,46,47,48,49,50,55,56,58,60,61, 72,80,81,82,83,84. We support recommendations urging deliberative actions on treaties or domestic institutions, such as that we “consider” them. We support recommendations asking us to ratify CEDAW, CRPD, and ILO Convention 111. We support recommendations asking us to ratify the CRC, as we support its goals and intend to review how we could move toward its ratification. We understand recommendations here and in para. 21 urging that we accelerate ratification or review of certain treaties as not intended to prejudice appropriate review and consideration of them in accordance with constitutional procedures. We understand full implementation in #31 as consistent with any reservations, understandings, or declarations to which our ratification would be subject. Concerning #72, we do not believe that any of our reservations, understandings, and declarations on international instruments undermine our obligations or the treaties’ object or purpose. Concerning #80–84, although there are many efforts at all levels to improve and strengthen existing domestic institutions that monitor human rights, there are no current plans to establish a single national human rights institution.
- 62. We are preparing for Senate consideration of the ATT.
- 91,92,93,94,95. See general explanation in para. 6. We are working toward better enforcement and implementation of existing laws and programs, and will consider suggestions for further improvement on an ongoing basis, but at this time we do not have plans to develop a supplemental national action plan.
- 107. The federal government has established interagency working groups to coordinate follow-up to supported UPR recommendations and to consider recommendations by human rights treaty bodies.
- 237,238. We understand the recommendations to mean the Executive branch should support legislation to ensure compliance with obligations in VCCR Article 36 and the ICJ’s judgment in *Avena*.
- 21. We support, in part:
 - 2,3,4,5,6,8,14,16,18,19,20,22,26,28,29,30,33,36,37,45,52,53,54,57,70. We support the parts of these recommendations asking us to ratify treaties, identified above, of which the Administration is most committed to pursuing ratification.
 - 108. U.S. international human rights obligations are implemented through a comprehensive system of laws and policies at all levels of government. We are taking steps to strengthen federal-level coordination, and are considering ways to improve implementation.
 - 111. We work with Special Rapporteurs to facilitate their visit requests on mutually-agreed terms, and we expect two official trips in late 2015 and early 2016.
- 22. We do not support:
 - 9,10,11,15,43,44,59,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,71,109.
 - 75,76,77,78,79,85,86,87,89,90. See explanation of #80, para. 20.

Other recommendations

23. We received some recommendations that do not fit into specific categories. We do not support:

- 96,101,103,104.
-



General Assembly

Distr.: General
28 September 2015

English and Russian only

Human Rights Council
Thirtieth session
Agenda item 6
Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

United States of America

Addendum

Views on conclusions and/or recommendations, voluntary commitments and replies presented by the State under review

Corrigendum

1. Paragraph 20

Delete fourth bullet

2. Paragraph 21

After first bullet, *insert*

- 91, 92, 93, 94, 95. See general explanation in para. 6. We are working toward better enforcement and implementation of existing laws and programs, and will consider suggestions for further improvement on an ongoing basis, but at this time we do not have plans to develop a supplemental national action plan.



United Nations

A/HRC/30/13



General Assembly

Distr.: General
20 July 2015

Original: English

Human Rights Council

Thirtieth session

Agenda item 6

Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

Marshall Islands

* The annex to the present report is circulated as received

GE.15-12156(E)



Please recycle



Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Introduction	3
I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process	3
A. Presentation by the State under review	3
B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review	6
II. Conclusions and recommendations	14
Annex	
Composition of the delegation	22

Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-second session from 4 to 15 May 2015. The review of the Marshall Islands was held at the 12th meeting, on 11 May 2015. The delegation of the Marshall Islands was headed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Tony A. deBrum. At its 17th meeting, held on 15 May 2015, the Working Group adopted the report on the Marshall Islands.
2. On 13 January 2015, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of the Marshall Islands: China, Congo and Mexico.
3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of the Marshall Islands:
 - (a) A national report (A/HRC/WG.6/22/MHL/1);
 - (b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) (A/HRC/WG.6/22/MHL/2);
 - (c) A summary prepared by OHCHR (A/HRC/WG.6/22/MHL/3).
4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Germany, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Slovenia, Sweden and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland was transmitted to the Marshall Islands through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the Working Group.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of the Marshall Islands thanked OHCHR, the Human Rights Council and the Working Group of the Universal Periodic Review for allowing the Marshall Islands to present its second report on its human rights situation. The delegation also thanked the Regional Rights Resource Team of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and their bilateral partners for assistance in the preparations leading up to the submission of the report of the Marshall Islands as well as their participation before the Working Group.
6. The Marshall Islands stated that with a population of roughly over 60,000 people, it consisted of low-lying coral atolls (29) and islands (5) in the central Pacific with a total land area of approximately 181 km² scattered over an exclusive economic zone of 2 million km² of ocean.
7. The Marshall Islands emphasized that after the Second World War it was administered by the United States of America as a United Nations-mandated Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. During that period, the United States had detonated in the country, namely the atolls of Bikini and Enewetak, 67 atmospheric, land and underwater atomic and thermonuclear weapons from 1946 to 1958, or the equivalent of 1.6 Hiroshima bombs every single day during the 12 years of the United States Nuclear Testing Program. Such was the legacy of the United States, and to the present day outstanding issues arising from the Program were yet to be resolved. The Marshall Islands adopted its Constitution in 1979

and on 21 October 1986 entered into the Compact of Free Association with the United States. An amended version of the Compact was signed in 2003.

8. The Marshall Islands stated that it had made important strides since its first universal periodic review in 2010. In addition to being party to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, it was now party to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Prior to accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, consultations had taken place to develop the National Policy on Disability Inclusive Development, which was approved by the "Nitijela" (Parliament) in late 2014. The Policy was developed in line with the Convention, the Pacific Regional Strategy on Disability and the Incheon Strategy to "Make the Right Real" for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific. Subsequent to acceding to the Convention, the Marshall Islands drafted a bill on the rights of persons with disabilities, which was before the Nitijela. The country received technical assistance from the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and the Pacific Disability Forum throughout the entire process.

9. With respect to the other core human rights treaties and existing optional protocols, the Cabinet had approved the accession of the Marshall Islands to those treaties and optional protocols subject to constitutional processes. Given its limited resources, the country had to be careful not only to accede to those important treaties and protocols, but also to apply them to domestic law in order to ensure proper implementation.

10. The Marshall Islands reported that the Nitijela had enacted a number of laws that supported the Bill of Rights and criminalized any violations thereof, particularly the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2011, an updated Criminal Code 2011 and the Marshall Islands Public School System Act 2013. Also before the Nitijela, in addition to the bill on the rights of persons with disabilities, were two bills, one on child protection and the other on the human rights commission. The latter would codify the Resource Development Committee and its monitoring and implementation responsibilities with respect to human rights.

11. Furthermore, and in addition to the National Policy on Disability Inclusive Development, the Marshall Islands stressed that it had developed the National Strategic Plan, with technical assistance from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Plan covered the period from 2015 to 2017 and would continually be updated in three-year increments so as to meet longer-term objectives which would be achieved in five sectors: social development; the environment, climate change and resiliency; infrastructure development; sustainable economic development; and good governance.

12. The Marshall Islands added that the Cabinet had recently adopted a number of important gender-inclusive national policies, including the Gender Equality Policy, the aforementioned National Strategic Plan, the National Climate Change Policy Framework and the National Energy Policy. They all incorporated goals and outcomes for gender equality and the advancement of women, and called for the development of gender-sensitive strategies for climate change responses and the advancement of women in decision-making and economic empowerment.

13. Regarding violence against women, the Marshall Islands indicated that the Nitijela had passed the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2011 after several years of work by several non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including Women United Together Marshall Islands. The Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Task Force was established in 2012, as an attachment to the Secretary of Internal Affairs, to ensure the law was implemented, make recommendations, pool resources and lobby for the Nitijela to provide financial support from the Ministry of Internal Affairs' recurrent budget. To further

help the work of eliminating domestic violence, the Government submitted an application to a United Nations trust fund and was awarded US\$ 372,000 for the implementation of the Act for three years according to the Act's costing table developed by UNDP. Furthermore, development of a family health study survey, with assistance from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), began in 2012; the survey was projected to be launched later in 2015. One of the recommendations arising from the exercise was to improve administrative data collection and analysis with regard to health, justice, education and social services. That would strengthen the referral system among essential services while allowing the country to carry out its analysis of the services to ensure that they were responding to the high prevalence rates of violence against women recorded in the survey, and make policy and programme reform where administrative reporting was low. The Marshall Islands stated that it urgently needed international assistance at the grass-roots and local levels to better achieve visible elimination of domestic violence.

14. Other policies had been developed in the Marshall Islands, namely the National Youth Policy (2009–2014), with assistance from NGOs and regional development partners; the National Reproductive Health Policy/Strategy (2014–2016), with assistance from the UNFPA Pacific Subregional Office; the Country Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy: A Three-Year Strategy (2014–2016), with assistance from UNFPA; and the Marshallese Joint National Plan for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management (2014–2018), with help from the Secretariat of the Pacific Community Applied Geoscience and Technology Division, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme and UNDP. The delegation thanked those international and regional partners, and asked for their continued support.

15. The Marshall Islands emphasized that those accomplishments had been made while it continued to face the challenges of climate change and the lingering effects of the United States Nuclear Testing Program. The country had been outspoken in seeking to address the human rights dimension of climate change, including in early 2009, when it told the Human Rights Council in a formal report that climate risks would seriously threaten nearly each and every core human right sector, including the right to statehood for the entire nation. In 2013, the country led efforts for the Pacific Islands Forum leaders to adopt the Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership, which set forward national commitments to reduce emissions. That principle — that every nation, large and small, rich and poor, commit to action — had helped change multilateral politics. The country was also working very hard to secure a strong and practical post-2020 climate agreement in Paris, but the Paris agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was very likely to leave serious exposure to human rights risks.

16. The Marshall Islands also emphasized that impacts of climate change on local communities continued to worsen; a recent drought had affected a quarter of the nation and necessitated the serious involvement of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the United Nations. Unusually strong king tides and coastal flooding had devastated local communities. That was also an issue shared in the wider Pacific region as seen when the Federated States of Micronesia and Vanuatu suffered from the recent hurricanes. While natural events had always occurred in small islands, it was irrefutable that there were climate drivers and that the scale and intensity of their impact were increasing.

17. The Marshall Islands highlighted the fact that the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes visited the Marshall Islands from 27 to 30 March 2012 and the United States from 24 to 27 April 2012 to assess the impact on human rights of the Nuclear Testing Program conducted in the Marshall Islands by the United States from 1946 to 1958. One of the issues identified in his report was the limited access to information

relating to the Program. Many of the historical documents provided to the Marshall Islands were incomplete and in "deleted version only" form and labelled as "extracted, redacted or sanitized" with information of an unknown nature and the volume removed. Following the Special Rapporteur's report, the country had as recently as 27 April 2015 been trying to gain access to that information but to no avail. The repeated failure or refusal of the United States to provide full access to those records could only be taken as a blatant indignity towards and lack of respect for the Marshallese people and represented an ongoing violation of basic human rights.

18. Despite those challenges and other constraints, such as human and financial resources, the delegation stated that the Marshall Islands continued to do its utmost to address recommendations from the first universal periodic review to improve the country's capacity to address human rights issues. As it had in 2010, the Marshall Islands once again requested the kind assistance of the international community for the following:

(a) Technical and financial assistance for capacity-building of public servants and government-elected officials with respect to implementation of human rights in the country;

(b) Technical and financial assistance in improving public awareness programmes of both the Government and NGOs with respect to the human rights of the Marshallese people;

(c) Technical and financial assistance to address climate change, educational and health issues.

19. The Marshall Islands reiterated its commitment to fulfilling its human rights obligations. Although it was a small island developing State, much progress had been made in five years, and the country was confident that more progress was forthcoming. It recognized that more work needed to be done, none of which would be relegated. The country would continue to do its part in the promotion and protection of human rights for the Marshallese people and the improvement thereof, but it would like to point out that that was a collaborative, universal effort requiring the partnership and assistance of the international community. To that end, the Marshall Islands looked forward to the recommendations of the Working Group, which would be seriously considered given its domestic process.

B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

20. During the interactive dialogue, 43 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue can be found in section II of the present report.

21. The Netherlands referred to the standing invitation extended to the special procedures and welcomed steps taken to implement recommendations by the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes. It was concerned about the protection of the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and/or other sexually transmitted diseases. It mentioned the steps taken in the field of women's rights and that improvements could be made regarding the political participation of women. The Netherlands made recommendations.

22. New Zealand was conscious of the challenges faced by small island developing States. It congratulated the Marshall Islands on ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and commended its development of domestic legislation. It indicated that violence against women was an ongoing problem and offered to share its own experiences in dealing with domestic violence. New Zealand made recommendations.

23. The Philippines appreciated the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, recalling that during the first universal periodic review, the Marshall Islands had received numerous recommendations regarding ratification of core international human rights treaties. It inquired about actions taken towards the ratification of those treaties. It pointed out that the Marshall Islands was late in submitting periodic reports in compliance with its obligations under those human rights conventions. The Philippines made a recommendation.
24. Portugal welcomed the steps taken to protect and promote human rights since the first universal periodic review, including the adoption of the Public School System Act 2013, which established a public free-of-charge school system. It welcomed the determination of the Marshall Islands to prevent adolescent pregnancy as reflected in the development of its 2014–2016 strategy. Portugal made recommendations.
25. The Russian Federation noted with satisfaction the progress achieved, including the new Criminal Code and the National Strategic Plan 2015–2017. It appreciated the policies to promote gender equality, improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities, and for the development of youth. It highlighted the need for the international community to provide support relating to health care and the environment. The Russian Federation made recommendations.
26. Rwanda noted with appreciation the legislative development, national measures and policies aimed at promoting and protecting human rights. It commended the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act. It noted with appreciation the development of the National Gender Policy, scheduled for review by the Cabinet in early 2015 and inquired about its outcome. It commended the adoption of the Disability Inclusive Development Policy. Rwanda made recommendations.
27. Sierra Leone commended efforts to address human rights issues in a holistic manner by engaging various stakeholders at the regional and international levels and pointed out that the Marshall Islands was well on its way to meeting Millennium Development Goal 4. It commended climate change management initiatives and encouraged the Marshall Islands to continue to seek technical assistance from the international community. Sierra Leone made recommendations.
28. Singapore welcomed the accession of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and commended it for including good governance as one of the five sectors of activity through which it sought to achieve the objectives of its National Strategic Plan. It acknowledged the efforts of the Marshall Islands in protecting and promoting the rights of women. Singapore made recommendations.
29. Slovenia commended the Marshall Islands for ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It welcomed efforts in the field of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including the adoption of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2011 and work on a new National Gender Policy. It pointed out efforts made to ensure the right to education but remained concerned about high-school dropout rates. Slovenia made recommendations.
30. Spain recognized the efforts made by the Marshall Islands in the area of the rights of persons with disabilities and congratulated it on the recent ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Spain made recommendations.
31. Responding to questions, the Marshall Islands underlined the fact that, concerning gender equality, even though there was only one female member of Parliament out of 33, a number of the country's positions in the public service were held by women such as the

Head of the Public Service Commission. The Marshall Islands strived to bring forward its goals of gender equality in that small country.

32. In terms of public health, the Marshall Islands had some of the best records in both follow-up and treatment of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis.

33. The Marshall Islands appreciated comments regarding its continuous efforts to secure justice for people who had been exposed to radiation during the nuclear testing program and their descendants. It was working on solving issues regarding claims that had been adjudicated but not paid and also on holding the United States responsible for the monitoring of exposed areas and homelands that could not be resettled because of the high level of radiation. That continued to be work in progress. The Marshall Islands had reached some milestones but there were still many impediments to the final resolution of that issue beginning with the freedom and access to information which it knew the United States possessed but never shared, invoking security reasons.

34. Sweden referred to the Committee on the Rights of the Child's recommendation to the Marshall Islands that corporal punishment of children be prohibited in all settings and that the Criminal Code authorized the use of force to correct children's misconduct. It pointed out that despite legal prohibition, violence against women was a widespread problem. Sweden made recommendations.

35. Thailand welcomed legislative and political reforms, in particular the adoption of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2011, the new Criminal Code and the active cooperation with international organizations. It encouraged the Marshall Islands to intensify its efforts to adopt and apply a global national policy on disabilities. It also encouraged awareness-raising programmes to prevent sexually transmitted diseases and early pregnancy. Thailand made recommendations.

36. Timor-Leste noted with appreciation the adoption of a new law on education in 2013 that ensured the right to education, as well as the adoption of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act. It mentioned that the Marshall Islands was in the process of reviewing its legislation concerning persons with disabilities. Timor-Leste made recommendations.

37. The United Kingdom commended the efforts of the Marshall Islands to implement recommendations, despite capacity and resource challenges. It welcomed measures to combat gender-based violence and protect the rights of children. It was concerned that levels of sexual and gender-based violence remained high and encouraged the Marshall Islands to take further action in that area and ensure that perpetrators of domestic violence were prosecuted. The United Kingdom made recommendations.

38. The United States indicated that the Government had approved the formation of a National Task Force on Human Trafficking, but stated that it had not demonstrated efforts to prosecute alleged traffickers, protect victims or prevent trafficking. It said that additional government efforts were needed to raise awareness and enforce laws prohibiting employment discrimination, particularly with regard to persons with disabilities. The United States made recommendations.

39. Uruguay congratulated the Marshall Islands on the recent ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and encouraged it to continue its efforts aimed at harmonizing domestic legislation with international human rights obligations. Uruguay made recommendations.

40. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela listed the legislative changes that had taken place during the past years, such as the new Penal Code and the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2011. It highlighted the National Strategic Plan of 2014, the

National Gender Policy and the Public School System Act. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela made a recommendation.

41. Algeria commended the efforts deployed by the Marshall Islands to promote and protect human rights, in particular the adoption of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act. It also congratulated the Marshall Islands on the measures adopted for the protection of children. It mentioned that the review of its national report referred to major challenges such as climate change and nuclear tests. Algeria made recommendations.

42. Argentina congratulated the Marshall Islands for the establishment of the National Strategic Plan 2015–2017 and the National Policy on Disability Inclusive Development 2014–2018. Argentina made recommendations.

43. Armenia noted the steps taken for raising awareness about human rights including through the mass media, the open invitation extended to all special procedures of the Human Rights Council, and the initiatives to promote women's rights. Armenia was concerned, however, that the Marshall Islands had not yet ratified numerous core international human rights instruments. It also encouraged the Marshall Islands to take additional measures to promote human rights education. Armenia made recommendations.

44. Australia congratulated the Marshall Islands for the enactment of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2011, while recognizing that efforts were still required to address the challenges posed by domestic violence. It also commended the country's participation in the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes, and stated that Australia would be pleased to assist the Marshall Islands in implementing the Special Rapporteur's recommendation to improve water sanitation and waste management. Australia made recommendations.

45. Belgium welcomed the efforts deployed by the Marshall Islands to follow up on the results of the first universal periodic review. In particular it commended the adoption of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2011, which represented a real stride forward. Despite the globally positive records of the Marshall Islands in the human rights sphere, Belgium suggested expanding the ratification of international human rights instruments and approving the implementation of existing legislation. Belgium made recommendations.

46. Responding to other questions, the Marshall Islands indicated that it was a matriarchal society. Traditionally, women dealt with the most important aspect of island life, the passage of land rights. The sense of belonging to the community in an extended family or a clan situation was based on where you must work, own land and be a caretaker for the future children of that land. That aspect, which was the most important of Marshallese society, influenced the behaviour of adults in the community. Over the past decades, with the urbanization of the island population, with the need to be displaced not just by choice but for various reasons including drugs, famine, floods and other reasons, the population had not lent itself to the traditional manner of dealing with extended family issues. As a result, it had to rely on modern law and processes to which access was limited and of which it had an even more limited understanding.

47. The Marshall Islands strived to make sure that Government measures for the prevention of domestic and gender violence and the protection of children, including guaranteeing their rights to health and education, were part of the country's constitutional responsibility. It still remained a task and a challenge for the Government to ensure that domestic violence was avoided first of all and then when it did occur it was properly prosecuted and prevented from future expansion. The Marshall Islands underlined that it was doing its best to deal with the problem, with the assistance of regional organizations, the United Nations as well as NGOs.

48. The Marshall Islands stated that the updated Criminal Code of 2011 was close to international human rights standards such as provisions for human trafficking. A task force on human trafficking had been established and the Government would be working closely with the International Organization for Migration on the implementation of the United States office grant to monitor and combat trafficking in persons. The Marshall Islands asked for closer cooperation with the United States and requested more information on how to track down, prevent and prosecute trafficking in persons.
49. Brazil commended the Marshall Islands for the review of the legal framework to strengthen women's rights. It also referred to the progress made with regard to rights relating to disability. Brazil made recommendations.
50. Canada welcomed the enactment of the law addressing domestic violence. It encouraged the Marshall Islands to finalize the remaining protocols and develop strategies to implement the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2011. Canada remained concerned, however, about reports of child malnutrition and limited access to health care and immunizations in rural communities. It encouraged the Marshall Islands to continue to work towards the achievement of its Millennium Development Goals. Canada made recommendations.
51. China welcomed the ratification by the Marshall Islands of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and other important international human rights instruments; its accession to the United Nations Convention against Corruption; the enactment of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act which was an important step in strengthening legal protection for women and children; its revision of the Criminal Code to criminalize human trafficking; and the fact that it pursued a national strategic plan and took measures to implement policies on gender equality, disability, inclusive development and child protection. China noted that as a small island developing State, the Marshall Islands was facing financial difficulties, lack of capacity and resources in the protection and promotion of human rights and called upon the international community to provide it with constructive help. China made recommendations.
52. The Congo noted with satisfaction that the Marshall Islands had marked an important stage in its development through adopting an inclusive policy to improve the country's capacity to address human rights issues. In the context of the recommendations of the first cycle of the universal periodic review, the Congo welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the progress achieved in the empowerment of women. The Congo made recommendations.
53. Costa Rica highlighted the importance of being a party to the main human rights instruments and encouraged strengthened cooperation with the human rights treaty bodies, the Human Rights Council and its special procedures and OHCHR. Costa Rica welcomed the standing invitation made to special procedures and mentioned the measures taken to step up efforts to deal with the problem of domestic violence and encouraged the continued waging of an effective war on that scourge. Costa Rica made recommendations.
54. Cuba pointed out the adverse effects of the nuclear tests carried out in some of the Marshall Islands, which had been exacerbated by the negative consequences of climate change. Cuba highlighted the progress made with the enactment of the new Criminal Code in line with international human rights standards as well as the adoption of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2011, the Marshall Islands Public School System Act 2013 and the National Policy on Disability Inclusive Development. Cuba made recommendations.
55. Denmark was pleased to note that the first cycle recommendations to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment had been accepted. Denmark welcomed the fact that a draft paper had been

prepared seeking a decision from the Cabinet to direct the national reporting and monitoring body to plan and consult with relevant stakeholders on the accession to human rights treaties. Denmark made a recommendation.

56. Egypt pointed out that, despite the fact that it had accepted the recommendation arising from the universal periodic review, the Marshall Islands had not ratified the majority of the key human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Egypt was also concerned that indigenous rights had been seriously affected by, *inter alia*, environmental contamination and displacement. Egypt was further concerned that the population experienced threats of increased drought, freshwater shortages, sanitation problems, food insecurity and coastal erosion. Egypt made recommendations.

57. Estonia referred to steps to implement previous recommendations including on the rights of persons with disabilities with the approval of the National Policy on Disability. Estonia commended the enactment of a new Criminal Code closely in line with international human rights standards and of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2011, which criminalized domestic violence. Estonia encouraged continued cooperation with the special procedures. Estonia made recommendations.

58. Fiji congratulated the Marshall Islands for the introduction of laws and policies to proactively prevent and deal with gender-based violence against women and girls, particularly the 2011 domestic violence law, the Child Protection Act and the recently approved National Gender Policy. Fiji shared with the Marshall Islands the challenges related to the loss of land and livelihood as a result of climate change, and concerning the course set to empower communities to be able to enforce social and economic rights in jeopardy as a result of climate change. Fiji made recommendations.

59. Responding to questions, the Marshall Islands thanked Fiji for its cooperation in the context of its participation in the Working Group session. The Marshall Islands reaffirmed that Parliament would certainly adopt those treaties and optional protocols before it in the course of 2015. The Marshall Islands stressed that because it had adopted its Constitution in 1978/1979, after many neighbouring countries had adopted theirs, it had had the benefit of learning from their laws and their judiciary's history to draft and approve a bill of rights that was quite extraordinary. The Marshall Islands had been trying during the past decades to harmonize its domestic legislation with international treaties and protocols despite the many obstacles and impediments to implementing those treaties.

60. The Marshall Islands stated that in some parts of the country, it was still distributing drinking water. It indicated that when it had to decide whether to build a prison for women or a maternity ward, it would choose the latter. It emphasized that it was not for lack of political will, but a matter of managing limited resources and that the Marshall Islands would abide by its commitments made in the context of the universal periodic review and regional meetings to implement them as soon as possible.

61. France welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities by the Marshall Islands and its standing invitation to the special procedures. France regretted that the Marshall Islands had still not ratified the two fundamental international covenants in line with its commitments from the first universal periodic review cycle. France made recommendations.

62. Germany acknowledged the challenges facing the Marshall Islands, especially its resource constraints and the consequences of climate change. Germany welcomed steps taken since the first universal periodic review such as the development of the National Strategic Plan and policies on disability, youth and gender as well as revision of the Criminal Code, criminalizing all forms of domestic violence. Germany indicated that some

gaps remained in the enjoyment of all human rights, especially for vulnerable groups. Germany made recommendations.

63. Indonesia commended the implementation of the National Strategic Plan 2015–2017, including on social development, climate change and resilience and good governance. Indonesia commended the adoption of gender and disability policies and the new Criminal Code in line with international human rights standards. Indonesia appreciated the establishment of the Resource Development Committee to address human rights issues and the universal periodic review reporting process. Indonesia made recommendations.

64. Ireland welcomed the introduction of legislation on domestic violence and the right to education. Ireland hoped that steps would be taken as soon as possible to ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Ireland recognized efforts, including through compensation, made to address the detrimental legacy of nuclear weapons-testing programmes. Ireland urged implementation of the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes to develop a health strategy and plan of action. Ireland was concerned at the low level of women's representation in politics and mentioned the challenges of poor immunization coverage and child malnutrition. Ireland made recommendations.

65. Israel recognized the significant efforts taken to address the constant threat of the effects of climate change that demanded increased attention and growing budget allocations. Israel highlighted measures taken such as accession to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, development of gender, disability and youth policies and the prevention of adolescent pregnancy strategy, creation of a Disability Coordination Office, enactment of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act, and to ensure free and public education. Israel made recommendations.

66. Japan appreciated that the Marshall Islands had recently become a party to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Japan welcomed the policies formulated on gender equality, domestic violence and persons with disabilities notably in the National Strategic Plan. Japan encouraged enhanced efforts to promote gender equality. Japan expected the steady implementation of relevant policies including the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act concerning the reportedly high incidence of violence against women, underage pregnancy and cases of child abuse. Japan made a recommendation.

67. Maldives respected the progress achieved since the first review, given the immense challenges of small island developing States struggling with the severe consequences of climate change. Maldives commended the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2011 and encouraged its prompt and effective implementation. Maldives mentioned the progress made in implementing a national programme aimed at eliminating violence against children and encouraged the expeditious passing into law of the Child Protection Bill. It welcomed the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Maldives made recommendations.

68. Mexico congratulated the Marshall Islands on ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, on awareness-raising programmes in different local media and on its mobile team expanding capacity-building and the delivery of information on reproductive health, family planning and food security. Mexico welcomed the commitment to combat the effects of climate change and indicated that lack of capacity and insufficient resources were major obstacles to dealing fully with problems and commitments on human rights. Mexico made recommendations.

69. Montenegro welcomed the adoption of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2011 and asked about activities for its full implementation and whether there was any intention to define 18 years as the legal age of marriage for girls. Montenegro also asked the Marshall Islands for information on the expected finalization of its internal accession procedure and on becoming a party to specific treaties. It inquired about the measures taken to strengthen laws and policies on child protection and integrate them into existing mechanisms. Montenegro made recommendations.

70. Morocco highlighted the commitment of the Marshall Islands to social and economic development with the adoption of the National Strategic Plan (2015–2017). It welcomed the visit of the Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes. Morocco welcomed the measures taken aimed at accession to the main international human rights instruments, including the Convention against Torture, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. It highlighted the adoption of the new Penal Code and various policies and strategies on disability, reproductive health, family planning and climate change. Morocco made recommendations.

71. Namibia encouraged the Marshall Islands to continue its efforts to promote and protect the rights of its people despite the challenges of climate change and environmental disasters. It was pleased to note the enactment of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2011 and inquired about the status of the national women's policy. Namibia made recommendations.

72. The Marshall Islands thanked those State representatives who had encouraged it and commended the work that had been done since the last universal periodic review. It thanked Israel for the installation of drinking water facilities in Eba, which would ensure that children attended school and had access to clean drinking water. It also mentioned the good cooperation with Japan along with the European Union in a programme of energy supply in the country. The Marshall Islands would continue to work with neighbouring countries, including Maldives, to deal with climate change issues.

73. The Marshall Islands considered that the most important human right was the right to exist. Countries in the Pacific and particularly the Marshall Islands had been subjected to forces beyond their control in terms of displacement of population as well as difficulty in providing basic health and education to their populations. The Marshall Islands considered that responsibility to be less important just because there were other priorities. It was a matter of making choices on what to address first and what to address next. The Marshall Islands viewed the right to exist as primarily important.

74. The Marshall Islands emphasized that there were places in the country that would be forbidden for human habitation for the following years. Displaced persons from the Nuclear Testing Program remained scattered not only throughout the Marshall Islands but also throughout the United States and in other parts of the world. Their human rights should be part of the discussion. The country also had issues with climate change over which it had absolutely no control. The Marshall Islands had been vocal in world forums on that issue because it was a right to exist issue. The Marshall Islands stressed the need to anticipate and urgently find answers to the rising of the ocean and what to do with the population, displaced people and how to secure their other human rights in the future. The Marshall Islands reiterated its commitment to ensure that universal periodic review recommendations were implemented.

II. Conclusions and recommendations^{**}

75. The following recommendations will be examined by the Marshall Islands which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirtieth session of the Human Rights Council, in September 2015:

- 75.1 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (New Zealand);
- 75.2 Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (New Zealand);
- 75.3 Ratify the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and its Optional Protocol (Portugal);
- 75.4 Ratify or accede to the remaining core international human rights treaties (Rwanda);
- 75.5 Ratify the seven core international human rights instruments including the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and their Optional Protocols (Sierra Leone);
- 75.6 Continue working towards the ratification of existing human rights treaties (Slovenia);
- 75.7 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Spain);
- 75.8 Ratify the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as previously recommended (Spain);
- 75.9 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Timor-Leste);
- 75.10 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Timor-Leste);
- 75.11 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 75.12 Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocols, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Uruguay);
- 75.13 Consider becoming party to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Uruguay);

^{**} The conclusions and recommendations have not been edited.

- 75.14 Accelerate the process of acceding to the two international human rights covenants and also to strengthen the rights of persons with disabilities (Algeria);
- 75.15 Consider ratifying the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as well as the other international human rights core instruments to which the country is not yet a party (Argentina);
- 75.16 Accede to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (Armenia);
- 75.17 Accede to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Armenia);
- 75.18 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its two Optional Protocols (Belgium);
- 75.19 Ratify all the core international human rights treaties to which the country is not yet a party, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment as well as the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Brazil);
- 75.20 Take immediate action to accede to the major human rights instruments, leading with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Canada);
- 75.21 Accede to international human rights instruments (Costa Rica);
- 75.22 Intensify efforts to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment with a view to having ratified it when the Marshall Islands meets the Human Rights Council for its third universal periodic review (Denmark);
- 75.23 Ratify all significant human rights treaties, so as to reinforce the implementation of, and compliance with, international human rights law in the country (Egypt);
- 75.24 Take steps to ratify the amendments to article 8 of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Estonia);
- 75.25 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its two Optional Protocols (Estonia);
- 75.26 Ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and its Optional Protocol (Estonia);
- 75.27 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (France);
- 75.28 Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (France);
- 75.29 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (France);

- 75.30 Strengthen its national mechanisms for the prevention of torture, by considering its accession to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Indonesia);
- 75.31 Join more human rights treaties and their Optional Protocols, especially the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Israel);
- 75.32 Continue its efforts towards early ratification of the main international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Japan);
- 75.33 Accelerate the analysis process for the ratification of international human rights treaties to which it is not yet a party and take appropriate measures for reporting progress on the implementation of the instruments to which it is already a party (Mexico);
- 75.34 Ratify the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Montenegro);
- 75.35 Ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty (Montenegro);
- 75.36 Consider ratifying the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and its Optional Protocols (Namibia);
- 75.37 Include sex and disability as grounds for non-discrimination in the Constitution (Slovenia);
- 75.38 Revise the Constitution to add gender and disability as grounds for which no one may be discriminated (Belgium);
- 75.39 Bring national legislation into line with international commitments made by the Marshall Islands on non-discrimination against women, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and continue its efforts to implement the Convention (France);
- 75.40 Adopt and implement the Child Protection Bill, preventing children from becoming victims of child abuse and publicly raising awareness for their rights (Germany);
- 75.41 Ensure that all forms of discrimination based on gender or sexual orientation are fully prohibited; implement the legal protection foreseen and provide assistance to victims of gender-based, sexual or domestic violence (Germany);
- 75.42 Continue with the current law reform effort to include measures protecting against discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity or disability (Israel);
- 75.43 Continue efforts to strengthen the legal and institutional framework in the field of human rights (Morocco);
- 75.44 Establish a national commission on human rights (Rwanda);
- 75.45 Consider establishing a national human rights institution which is in line with the Paris Principles, which would help monitor and better integrate human rights norms into national policies (Sierra Leone);

- 75.46 Establish a national institution to promote and protect human rights in accordance with the Paris Principles (Uruguay);
- 75.47 Establish a national commission on human rights to coordinate, provide capacity development and assist with strengthening human rights implementation throughout the country (Egypt);
- 75.48 Establish a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (France);
- 75.49 Continue efforts to establish a national human rights institution that is in line with the Paris Principles and allocate adequate resources (Germany);
- 75.50 Further strengthen its national human rights institution in accordance with the Paris Principles and pursue the development of a comprehensive national human rights action plan (Indonesia);
- 75.51 Request assistance from the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations in order to establish a national human rights institution which would strengthen, coordinate and develop the required measures to respect the human rights of all in the country (Mexico);
- 75.52 Promote good governance and transparency at the national and atoll administration levels, strengthen public and private sector accountability; and develop a human rights policy and management framework, including annual reporting on their social, environmental and economic impact, with appropriate monitoring and evaluation (Egypt);
- 75.53 Continue to promote good governance and rule of law through effective policy coordination at national and atoll levels (Singapore);
- 75.54 Actively implement the policy to promote gender equality, to improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities and development of youth (Russian Federation);
- 75.55 Endorse and begin implementing the National Gender Policy (Estonia);
- 75.56 Implement the National Gender Policy and work with women's civil society groups to implement it in all spheres of national life (Fiji);
- 75.57 Make national planning and national budgeting gender-responsive (Fiji);
- 75.58 Adopt and seek technical assistance from donor agencies to implement a national training programme for judges, lawyers, civil society groups and schoolchildren on their rights to water, food security, life, education and health in relation to climate change, and the ways in which the courts can help to develop a Pacific jurisprudence on the relationship between climate change and human rights (Fiji);
- 75.59 Take all necessary steps to promptly adopt and implement a comprehensive national disability policy in full compliance with international standards (Maldives);
- 75.60 Design a strategy to manage resources more efficiently, so as to deal with the most pressing human rights issues, and pay particular attention to the marginalized sectors of the population (Mexico);
- 75.61 Continue to enhance its partnership with specialized agencies of the United Nations in order to implement human rights and boost its cooperation

with special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council (Congo);

75.62 Step up existing cooperation with international bodies in respect of the human right to water and sanitation, in particular with the United Nations Environment Programme and with the Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation (Spain);

75.63 Continue to engage its regional and international partners with a view to seeking technical and other assistance towards its full compliance with its human rights treaty obligations (Philippines);

75.64 Submit the overdue reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on the Rights of the Child at the earliest possible stage (Portugal);

75.65 Seek technical assistance and cooperation to combat the high prevalence of non-communicable diseases and its root causes (Maldives);

75.66 Strengthen cooperation and partnership, including with OHCHR, to continue with the implementation of national policy in the matters of disability, health and disaster management (Morocco);

75.67 Pursue efforts to combat all forms of discrimination against women (Algeria);

75.68 Take the measures necessary to review its domestic legislation in order to guarantee the free and compulsory birth registration of all children born in the country (Argentina);

75.69 Introduce a national plan of action to combat violence against women (New Zealand);

75.70 Build on the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act and the National Gender Policy to implement more concrete programmes and policies to combat violence against women and children, and to promote the full and equitable participation by women in society (Singapore);

75.71 Continue its efforts towards the effective implementation of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act, including through awareness-raising and changing mindsets and attitudes (Slovenia);

75.72 Step up measures of awareness-raising on gender-based violence to promote the prevention of this phenomenon (Spain);

75.73 Take all appropriate measures to end domestic violence (Sweden);

75.74 Continue combating violence against women and children by prohibiting the right to use force and severe corporal punishment of children at home, and effectively enforcing the existing laws in this area, especially the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act (Thailand);

75.75 Take further steps to combat domestic violence, including a greater gender sensitization (Timor-Leste);

75.76 Move towards swift implementation of its National Gender Policy as a positive step towards the goal of eliminating gender-based violence (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

- 75.77 Effectively implement the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act through advocacy and awareness-raising amongst targeted audiences (Australia);
- 75.78 Finalize and implement the first response protocol for urgent intervention, so that the problem of violence against women and girls is dealt with effectively and that ministries concerned are provided with the budget necessary to apply the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act (Belgium);
- 75.79 Take steps to strengthen the enforcement of existing laws criminalizing rape and domestic violence, including by vigorously investigating and prosecuting violence against women, and providing targeted training and capacity-building to law enforcement officials (Canada);
- 75.80 Set up its efforts for the effective implementation of those mechanisms allowing for the application of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act (Congo);
- 75.81 Raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility to 18 years and abolish child marriage by raising the age of marriage to 18 (Sierra Leone);
- 75.82 Pursue efforts undertaken to prevent and more effectively punish acts of domestic violence committed against women and children, through strengthening the legislative arsenal and the resources allocated to the judiciary, police force and justice (France);
- 75.83 Further develop policies to combat domestic and gender-based violence (Israel);
- 75.84 More actively conduct education and awareness campaigns on the issue of trafficking in persons and make efforts to study human trafficking in the country, adopt proactive procedures to identify victims of trafficking among vulnerable groups, such as foreign workers and women in prostitution, and investigate trafficking cases (United States of America);
- 75.85 Prohibit corporal punishment of children in all settings, including the home, and repeal the authorization of the use of force to correct children's misconduct in the Criminal Code (Sweden);
- 75.86 Reform its legislation with a view to establish the prohibition of all forms of corporal punishment of children, an indispensable component for the prevention and elimination of violence against children, as well as for the respect for children's rights, dignity and physical integrity (Brazil);
- 75.87 Adopt legislation to prohibit all forms of corporal punishment of children in all settings, and explicitly repeal the right to use force for "prevention or punishment of the minor's misconduct" and for the maintenance of "reasonable discipline" in the Criminal Code (Namibia);
- 75.88 Ensure political participation of women in governmental decision-making bodies in order to generate inclusive and balanced decision-making in matters that concern both women and men (Netherlands);
- 75.89 Take measures to promote greater participation and representation of women in public positions, especially in politics (Costa Rica);
- 75.90 Adopt temporary special measures to facilitate greater participation and representation of women in public offices, particularly in fields relating to political and civil rights (Egypt);

- 75.91 Adopt measures to facilitate greater representation of women in public office and improve the participation of women in political life (Ireland);
- 75.92 Take measures to facilitate greater participation and representation of women in public offices (Israel);
- 75.93 Provide legal protection for equality of opportunity in employment for all of its citizens, particularly for persons with disabilities (United States of America);
- 75.94 Continue strengthening its development policies, as well as its social protection programmes, that it is already implementing, to give a better quality of life and well-being to its people, and for this purpose it is very important to have the technical cooperation and technical assistance that the country requires (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 75.95 Improve public infrastructure such as water supply, sanitation and waste management so as to ensure adequate living standards and the right to health for its people (China);
- 75.96 Review current policies and develop, together with the private sector, a code of practice on HIV in the workplace, taking into account the international standards of the World Health Organization and the conventions and recommendations adopted by the International Labour Organization (Netherlands);
- 75.97 Thoroughly implement the 2014–2016 strategy to prevent adolescent pregnancy, in cooperation with UNFPA (Portugal);
- 75.98 Provide greater access to public health services with adequate health coverage, particularly in the outer islands (Thailand);
- 75.99 Request technical assistance from specialized agencies of the United Nations in order to promote human rights through partnerships in the education and health sectors in particular to face up to the consequences of the nuclear tests (Algeria);
- 75.100 Take action at all levels to address the interlinked root causes of preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 and consider applying the technical guidance on the application of a human rights-based approach to the implementation of policies and programmes to reduce and eliminate preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age (A/HRC/27/31) (Ireland);
- 75.101 Continue efforts to reduce non-attendance and the dropout rate from the educational system (Slovenia);
- 75.102 Continue its efforts and adopt further measures to promote the realization of the right to education for all in an inclusive and non-discriminatory way, including for persons with disabilities (Portugal);
- 75.103 Implement specific measures to promote inclusive education of children with disabilities (Israel);
- 75.104 Continue strengthening protection of the rights of persons with disabilities, particularly through approving a national disability strategy, which particularly focuses on boys, girls and women with disabilities (Spain);
- 75.105 Give appropriate resourcing to implement its Disability Inclusive Development Policy (Australia);

- 75.106 Adopt a practical approach in addressing its development and human rights challenges (Singapore);
- 75.107 Continue taking measures to ensure adequate protection of human rights in actions taken to address climate change (Costa Rica);
- 75.108 Pay attention to the impact of climate change on the country's human rights situation and fully address this impact with the support of the international community (China);
- 75.109 Continue leading the international dialogue in an effort to reduce the effects of climate change and to adopt effective adaptation measures (Cuba);
- 75.110 Keep up its work to combat the adverse consequences of the nuclear testing programme, including the provision by its promoters of the necessary resources to deal with those consequences (Cuba);
- 75.111 Actively seek, with the help of the international community, a resolution to restore the natural environment, affected by the nuclear testing of the United States on the Marshall Islands (Russian Federation).
76. All conclusions and recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State and the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

Annex

[English only]

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of the Marshall Islands was headed by H.E. Mr. Tony A. deBrum, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and composed of the following members

- Mr. Bernard Adiniwin, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General
 - Mr. Laurence Enos Edwards II, Assistant Attorney General, Office of the Attorney General
 - Mr. Warwick Harris, Deputy Director, Office of Environmental Planning and Policy Coordination
 - Ms. Morina Mook, Chief of Waste and Pollutant, Environmental Protection Authority
 - Mr. Caleb Christopher, Legal Advisor, Permanent Mission at the United Nations
 - Mr. Mark Atterton, Human Rights Advisor, Ministry for Foreign Affairs
-



General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 September 2015

Original: English

Human Rights Council
Thirtieth session
Agenda item 6
Universal periodic review

Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review

Marshall Islands

Corrigendum

Paragraph 46

The fifth sentence *should read*

Over the past decades, with the urbanization of the island population, with the need to be displaced not just by choice but for various reasons, including drought, famine, floods and other reasons, the population had not lent itself to the traditional manner of dealing with extended family issues.

GE.15-15609(E)



Please recycle

